Jagan. Bud., March 20th, 1920.

Drink and enjoy
Lipton's Tea
If you want the best Tea, go to the firm that grows it.
The Largest Tea Distributory.
Plantations, Gold Medallists and Tea Specialists in the World.
LIPTON LTD.,
CITY RD., LONDON, E.C.1.
Branches and Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

DO IT NOW! Cut Out the "J.B." Pen Coupon on Page 16.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 720. SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1920. TWOPENCE.
[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

The BEST WAY To Invest Your Dividends
Take up an Endowment Assurance Policy and so make your interest money accumulate for future use, and in the interim enjoy all the benefits of life assurance. Send a postcard to-day for particulars of this sound and attractive method of investment and insurance.
Eagle, Star and British Dominions Insurance Co., Ltd., 51, Moorgate St., London, E.C.2.
Head Office:
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Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

Resting, but Watchful

THE TRICK TRUMPED.

BY HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

By Appointment to H.M. The King.
Supreme Quality
When you buy unsweetened Milk, be sure you get the right brand. Don't be misled by the size of the tin—it's the quality of the contents that counts. In "Ideal" you have milk of the highest possible quality with all its original cream—milk you can depend upon for every purpose. Therefore always insist on
IDEAL MILK
and beware of inferior substitutes which contain much less cream and more water.
Ideal Milk is sold everywhere.
Cash Price 11d. & 6d. per tin.
If unobtainable locally write direct to us. Postage will be refunded.
NESTLÉ'S, 6 & 8, EASTCHEAP, E.C.3

Letters in Praise of

Hall's Wine

THE SUPREME TONIC RESTORATIVE

The letters of praise which we receive from those who have tried Hall's Wine come from both doctors and patients.

A medical man writing from Wimpole St., W., says: "Please send 6 bottles of Hall's Wine to my private residence. I have been 'overdoing it' and find Hall's Wine an excellent tonic."

Another doctor writes: "Hall's Wine braced me up so effectively that I have pinned my faith to it ever since."

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There could be no better recommendations of Hall's Wine than letters such as these and no stronger proof of its value in all run-down conditions. Hall's Wine is the prescription of a doctor and it has been regularly prescribed by doctors for over twenty-five years.

LARGE SIZE BOTTLE, 5/6

Of all Wine Merchants, and Licensed Grocers and Chemists.

STEPHEN SMITH & COMPANY, LIMITED, BOW, LONDON, E.3.

'GEM'

The FAMOUS 5/- SAFETY RAZOR

Complete with Six 'GEM' Damaskeene Blades and Stropping Attachment.

Extra 'GEM' Damaskeene Blades in sealed packets 7 for 2/6

THE GEM SAFETY RAZOR CO. LTD.,
134 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

Can be obtained at all Cutlers, Ironmongers, Stores, Chemists, etc.

Influenza

The Milton Spray

Has been specially designed for all purposes of spraying Milton—for spraying the air—for spraying food—and for spraying the nostrils. It gives a fine vapour-like spray which penetrates everywhere. Price 2/6. Post free 2/8 each.

Follow Government advice ——— *prevent* Influenza

To take precautions against Influenza is not a sign of panic but of prudence, because Influenza can be prevented more easily than it can be cured. That is why the Government urges everyone immediately to take steps not only to avoid infection but also to avoid spreading it. You can take both these precautions with Milton.

Tests by the best known bacteriologists have proved that Milton annihilates the Influenza germ in a flash.

If the thousands who succumbed to Influenza had known of Milton and used it, they would be here to-day. Where Milton was employed the figures of efficiency were really startling. We have sent particulars of these figures to dealers. Ask for the Milton Influenza Leaflet.

MILTON

ANTISEPTIC

1/3 and 2/6 BOTTLE

Your Dealer sells it

The wonder of Milton is that while it has power instantly to destroy germs it is perfectly safe and harmless to use. Milton is non-poisonous, non-irritant and non-inflammable.

Does 101 Things.

The hundred and one uses of Milton are fully described in the Booklet attached to each Bottle. Look for this Booklet when buying.

These three simple precautions positively prevent Influenza

1 Add a teaspoonful of Milton to a tumbler of cold or tepid water. Use this as a mouthwash and gargle, and spray the notrils two or three times a day. Before meals is the best time, but any time is good.

2 Spray the house, the workroom, the shop, the factory, the church with Milton solution. The effect of this in reducing infection astonishes bacteriologists.

3 Make your food safe against 'Flu infection. Wash or spray meats, poultry, fish, vegetables, or fruit with Milton before cooking (a tablespoon to a pint). Milton does not add the slightest taste or smell—only freshens up the natural flavour of the food and makes it germ-proof.

MILTON MANUFACTURING CO., Ltd., 125, Bunhill Row, LONDON, E.C
64, Wellington Street, GLASGOW; 37, Piccadilly, MANCHESTER; 5, Cope Street, DUBLIN.

but your hair at Home!

The DOUGLAS PRUNER

You can cut your own hair any length you like—comfortably at home—in a few minutes. It is nothing but a process of combing. Use it as you use a comb. The result is always smooth and even. It trims just a little off long or curly hair or shaves the neck, just as you like. Do not doubt these statements; you can try the DOUGLAS PRUNER free for seven days. Send price 5/6 for a DOUGLAS PRUNER complete with spare blade. If you do not like it send it back and we will return 5/6 to you without question. All British. Over 10000 satisfied users

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PRICE 5/6 POST FREE

Model de Luxe PRICE 7/6

A Splendid Investment

Can be secured at small cost.
It is possible to

BUY YOUR HOUSE

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THROUGH

THE CITY LIFE

And utilise the rent for the repayments.

Particulars Free—
Apply D.B. J.B., 6, Paul Street, Finsbury E.C. 2.

JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
Milton.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 720. **Week ending Saturday, March 20th, 1920.** **Twopence.**

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

"To Berlin!"

So the Hohenzollerns are showing their teeth. If my advice had been taken, Foch would have been in Berlin in November, 1918. And he would not have had to fight his way there!

A Double Prescription.

To "make Germany pay," lend her money; to bring the war criminals to justice, let them be tried in Germany. What the late Sir W. S. Gilbert would have given for that situation! He would probably have written a new edition of the *Mikado*.

A Message from "Bobs."

A Java correspondent tells us that he and two other planters recently held a spiritualistic séance on their own, and received the following message from Lord Roberts: "Be ready; beware! Japan will strike soon in Java." "Bobs" is evidently keeping his eyes open!

Labour Government.

An interesting light is thrown upon the problem of whether Labour is yet fit to govern by the action of the Soviet in abolishing the Workmen's Councils and replacing them with men of practical experience and ability. Even our own Philip Snowden thinks this is "a lesson to advanced Labour."

Pulling Our Leg.

Lady Askwith is evidently somewhat gullible. She has been telling us that "mice are nestling in some of the carcases of mutton at the docks." We should like to see how a mouse looked after nestling in 18 degrees below freezing point—which is the temperature of meat in cold storage.

The Merry Undergrad.

There appears to have been fun at Cambridge, the other night, when Mr. Norman Angell and his friends essayed to address a meeting held under the auspices of the Union of Democratic Control. According to the local reports, the undergraduates, in answer to every query of the speakers, replied: "Write to JOHN BULL about it." And some of them have!

The Stockport Stockpot.

The Coalition Government is often likened to a political omelette containing more than one bad egg, and the extraordinary gyrations of the official caucuses in connection with the Stockport Election certainly suggest another culinary simile. The Party leavings have been again and again overhauled, with the result that both the Coalition and the Labour dishes stink in the nostrils of the electorate.

Mr. Smillie.

We are, of course, sorry to hear of the breakdown in Mr. Smillie's health—but, like that of Mr. Wardle, it *did* come at a somewhat opportune moment, didn't it?

The Peace Treaty.

Why do our Government charge a guinea for a copy of this document, when it may be procured in France for half-a-crown? What they charge for it in the United States we have not heard; perhaps it is not on sale!

John Bull, Junior.

In answer to many inquiries, we beg to say that this journal is in no way connected with the Vancouver (British Columbia) publication bearing the above title. We wish it the best of luck, all the same.

More American Compliments.

This from Mr. William H. Anderson, Superintendent of the New York Branch of the Anti-Saloon League: "The reason the American was able to turn the tide so quickly was that the United States Army was less ravaged by alcohol and vice disease than any other army." Really, really, Uncle Sam!

TO MANCHESTER AND STOCKPORT READERS.

Will all readers in the above district who are willing to assist the Independent "JOHN BULL" candidates in the Stockport by-election, be good enough to get in touch with the Independent Committee Room, 17, Lord Street, Stockport? Absent voters should also send their present addresses.

A Legal Charlatan.

We cannot congratulate Crewe upon the selection of Mr. E. G. Hemmerde, K.C., as its Labour Candidate—nor Sir Leo Chiozza Money upon the choice of this discredited barrister as principal speaker at the opening of his Stockport campaign. If "E.G." is wise, he will lie low for a time.

"Nosey" Parker.

It is in no spirit of disrespect to our honourable friend, Mr. J. Parker, that we refer to him in this way, but with the mysteriously sudden resignation of Mr. Wardle—as to which we may have something to say later on—he is now the only Labour man left in the Government; and we have no doubt his motive is to keep in touch, for the benefit of the workers, with what is going on behind the scenes. In other words, he means to "nose things out."

The "Cat."

Many of our readers plead for public, as distinguished from private, flogging. Personally, we think a jury with a Medical Assessor would meet the case.

Shell-Shock Hospital Scandal.

We hear vague rumours of strange happenings at the privately-run Shell-Shock Hospital at Eling, near Southampton, and we suggest that a Government Inquiry into the matter should at once be held.

German Lotteries.

We warn our readers against responding to the German lottery circulars with which the country is being flooded. First, because they *are* German; and, secondly, because any subscriptions will be stopped in the post.

***Deutschland* Collecting Boxes.**

It is suggested that we should manufacture from *Deutschland* metal collecting boxes for our "Greatest of These——" Fund, shaped as models of the famous—or, rather, infamous—vessel. Not at all a bad idea.

Thrift Prize Bond Club.

This Club, which we "adumbrated" during the issue of the recent French Premium Bond Loan, has been removed to Paris—where its business will be conducted and whence all communications will in future reach members.

Too Previous.

That was a nice point raised by Mr. Cecil Hayes in one of the sweepstake prosecutions—that the mere posting of circulars which were never delivered, being seized by the authorities, did not amount to "publication." It looks as though Treasury Counsel were a bit "too previous."

Our American Mail.

We understand that all letters addressed to us from America—particularly the Los Angeles district—are now severely censored by the U.S.A. postal authorities, who subject them to what is known there as the "once over." Perhaps our American correspondents will take the hint.

Pit Ponies.

We call attention to the prize letter in our "People's Pulpit" this week, on the subject of pit ponies. It is evident that there is no real necessity for these poor creatures to be in the mines, and it would be with a great sense of relief that the public learnt of the discontinuance of their employment and the closing of the terrible chapter of cruelty and maltreatment which has for many years shocked the national conscience.

Local Limerick.

(The Rev. A. Cuming, bachelor Vicar of Addlestone, says he resists the fair sex, but was recently given the kiss of peace by a lady. With great dexterity he eluded another.)

There is a shy Vicar of Surrey,
Who was kissed by a dame in a hurry;
It may have been nice,
But, in case she kissed twice,
He vamoosed in a flurry and scurry.

Cause and Effect.

On the notice-board of a small Nonconformist Chapel at Leatherhead appeared, last week, these announcements: "Saturday night, at 8 p.m., Annual Potato Pie Supper"; "Subject for Sermon on Sunday, 'A Night of Horror.'" And quite near the Chapel is a restaurant which invites "Cyclists and Photographers" to "Try Our 1s. 6d. Luncheon" — and then follows this: "Dark Room Provided for Developments." Our authority is a clergyman!

Jeremiah, Limited.

On the whole, we should say there is small cause for the lamentations of Jeremiah—Jeremiah Rotherham and Co., Ltd., a wholesale drapery firm. Their last year's net profit is disclosed at £307,638, after providing for all expenses whatever; £360,000 net for distribution, including a balance over from the previous year. The capital of the Company is £600,000. This is only a solitary example of the vast profits made by wholesale drapers as the result of a delightful war.

The National Anthem.

Who is to write a new Empire verse for the National Anthem of our great progenitor, Mr. Bull? How is this for a start?:—

To all those countries far,
Lord, where our peoples are,
True peace impart.
Cause them our name to bless;
Let every race possess
One strength, one nobleness,
One mind, one heart!

Banbridge Bans the Brave.

Amongst the applicants for the post of Town Clerk of Banbridge, at a salary of £125 a year and perquisites, were three ex-officers, all eminently suitable. One of these was proposed, but found no seconder. Instead, a solicitor's clerk was appointed, a young man who had sat on his stool at the office and slept in his bed at home throughout the war. It is true that his two brothers had served; and this was actually advanced as a reason for appointing the stay-at-home! We imagine they feel ashamed that their brother had the presumption to step into the vacancy.

Our Daily Bread.

"Oh God, that bread should be so dear and flesh and blood so cheap!" was the poignant cry of Tom Hood in the "Song of the Shirt." "For God's sake don't let the price of bread be raised if you can help it," appeals an Aslockton woman, the wife of a farm labourer. Her husband's wage is 38s. a week. Out of this 4s. vanishes in rent. The remainder has to find everything for her husband, herself, and six children—all under 12 years. "We have to go without many things; don't let us have to go without bread." For such a family there is small comfort. There is no doubt their daily bread will cost them more. It is the price of the foreign yoke.

Armistice Day.

Looking over the "Book of Days" recently, we came across a curious item—none other, in fact, than that November 11th was known to our ancestors as "The Day of Dupes"—being the anniversary of the occasion when, in 1630, it was vainly imagined that Cardinal Richelieu had been finally overthrown! History, indeed, does often repeat itself!

Bermondsey Butchers.

By the casting vote of the Chairman, Bermondsey Food Control Committee granted a licence to a German, who had been interned, to re-start trade as a butcher. It was pointed out that the shop would be detrimental to the interests of an ex-soldier carrying on business opposite. That seemed to make no difference to the German's luck, although in the next case a British butcher was refused a licence because of a soldier's butcher business close by. Local feeling is very strongly against the alien, and there is still hope that the shop will not be opened by him.

Our ONE WEEK Competition.

£250

MUST BE WON

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS

or Next Largest number of winning teams.

Fill up the Free Coupon on Page iii of Cover.

Pity the Poor Huns.

This item of horse-sense is from the correspondence columns of a Cheltenham newspaper. "It is wearisome to read such perpetual appeals to the British people in aid of the poor Austrians and their children. Certainly they should be fed and clothed, but the cost should be borne by the rich Austrians and Germans throughout the world; if not willingly, then by a tax specially levied on them for the purpose." The latter suggestion might prove impracticable, but that the principle is sound no sane person will deny.

Much Too Severe.

It may have been very naughty of those three little boys at Littledean, Gloucestershire—Reginald Brown, aged 10; George Sargent, aged 9; and Frederick Button, aged 7—to "play Satan" and set fire to a haystack; but if it was simply a case of indulging in a dangerous game with torches of blazing hay and not of deliberately destroying valuable property, it was surely too bad to send two of the youngsters away for four years to the Cardiff Industrial School. If a lesson was needed, a sharp whipping would have more than met the case. That cruel Industrial School taint does not easily wear off.

"Crowner's Quest Law."

An unlucky kick was followed by the death of William Prim, a Finsbury labourer, 59 years of age, the whole circumstances forming the subject of inquiry by the City Coroner. The doctors stated that "death was due to an injury more likely to have been caused by a kick than a fall," and the jury, having listened to the evidence of Thomas Alexander Lidstone, who admitted that he had kicked the unfortunate man, were "unanimously of opinion that the deceased met his death from the kick." Yet on this evidence the Coroner recorded the simple verdict of "Death by Misadventure," the suggestion that the circumstances should be criminally investigated being summarily dismissed. Strange law, surely!

Who Adopted Ramsay?

We are a little curious to know who is fathering Herr Ramsay von Macdonaldbacher as Labour candidate for the Aberavon Division? Apparently he is not sponsored by the responsible Labour leaders, nor has he been chosen on appeal to the rank and file, but rather foisted on the constituency. His unforgettable war record is going to embarrass the Labour cause in the Division not a little.

The Farmer's Price.

Lord Beaconsfield described a cynic as a man who knew the price of everything and the value of nothing. Mr. R. Featherstone, Newton Farm, Hinderwell, seems by way of coming within the description. He wants a tall, respectable woman as housekeeper; age not under 35; must be a good milker, able to make butter and cheese; farmer's daughter preferred. He is willing, according to his advertisement in a Whitby paper, to give £15 a year. It is not anticipated in the district that a policeman will be needed to line-up applicants.

A Word with "F. E."

Is the Lord Chancellor, who has just added the name of the Rev. Herbert Dunnico to the Commission of the Peace for the County of Essex, aware of this reverend gentleman's record? Amongst other things, he was ordered to pay twenty guineas costs for spreading disaffection during the war—this being one of his rhetorical gems: "Come and help us to destroy those things you call Kings, Royalties and Courts." We are sure the facts were withheld from the Lord Chancellor.

Let Her Go!

In 1914, a man rejected from the Army because of eye trouble, but keen on doing something for his country, sailed for New Zealand to help a married sister whose husband had been called to the Colours. He has got a house ready for his sweetheart, and as far back as two years ago paid her passage in advance. But the High Commissioner will not let her go. These young people might have added to the strength of the Empire to the extent of four or five sturdy young Britons. Moreover, we have plenty of girls at home.

Finding—Stealing.

That if you find you are entitled to keep is a widespread delusion. A window-cleaner named Daniels, living at Reigate, was evidently a victim of this delusion when he found a £75 diamond ring in a dustbin and kept it, as he told the Judge at Guildford Assizes, because he didn't think it was worth more than 6d. Whatever may be thought of his Lordship's opinion that the man's defence was impudent, most people will probably agree with us that his sentence—12 months' imprisonment—was savage. The Home Secretary certainly ought to revise the man's punishment.

A Holiday Hint.

It is satisfactory that Miss Lizzie Owen, of Hendre Hall, Barmouth, whom we had occasion to criticise last year, has been smartly brought to book for her culpable behaviour, a Birmingham resident having recovered £10 damages for a spoilt holiday. A fortnight before this gentleman's party were due to arrive at Hendre Hall, the rooms having been booked in May for the end of July, Miss Owen impudently "cancelled" the arrangement as regards two of the rooms. It cannot be too widely known that in these circumstances seaside landladies may be held answerable in damages at the local County Court.

Local Limerick.

("There are two million too many women in England and Wales," said Dr. Murray Leslie in a lecture at the Institute of Hygiene.)

There's a doctor who's taking a stand
'Gainst the number of girls in the land.
Cure? The chamber that's bridal,
Or, more suicidal,
The chamber that's lethal, at hand.

Cheap.

Albert Edwards, a Ratby (Leicester) farm hand, threw a hayfork at a cow-in-calf because "the —— came into the orchard." The animal galloped across a field with one prong sticking six inches into her. All this farm hand had to pay, by order of the Chairman of the County Bench—"who emphasised the gravity of the offence"—was 20s., "defendant's employer putting the money down." Your comment is probably ours.

Uncivil.

We have it from a demobbed soldier that, although the Government "advertise all over the place for employers to engage discharged soldiers, there is Government work—a flying depot—round here at Ascot where civilians are employed, and a great many of them have never served their country in any way during the war." If the Government practised what they preached, and what they preached they meant, and what they meant they didn't muddle, they would be the finest Government on earth.

Work and Woe.

It is up to the Minister of Health—at any rate, we think so—to stuff a little human feeling into the skins of the Dunmow Old Age Pensions Committee. Henry Stone is 74 and unable to work as a farm labourer. His wife is 49; and though she herself has had no work since Christmas on account of continued illness, the Committee refuse the old man a pension on the ground that she should be able to work to keep him. They advised him to seek parish relief; and to keep the wolf from his humble home, this is what he has had to do.

Sickening.

Mr. J. Couch, an Altarnun (Cornwall) farmer who did very well safe and sound on his farm while the boys were facing the Hun music, does not strike us as being very appreciative of their services. "We have had too much of ex-Service men," he said, as a member of the Launceston Board of Guardians; "it is sickening. We have found it in many cases." The question before the Board was whether in regard to certain vacancies preference should be given to ex-soldiers. Farmer Couch should keep his patriotic soul a little higher than appears in this speech.

A Hero's Reward.

Here in brief outline is the record of Harold Clinch late of the Royal Navy, signaller to Admiral Keyes during the famous night attack on the Mole at Zeebrugge. Joined the Navy in 1915 at 15 years of age, served throughout the war; engaged at Zeebrugge as stated, badly wounded, awarded the D.S.M. Discharged from Navy since the Armistice, he is now out of work, having tramped all over London in search of employment denied him on account of his injured hand. Finally the poor fellow is told by the Bromley Magistrates that unless he can pay up certain arrears of maintenance for his wife, from whom he is living apart, he will have to go to prison. No mistake, we do make a fuss of our heroes.

Camborne's Chosen.

Camborne, like other towns, is cruel enough to promise a preference to unemployed ex-Service men for vacant posts, and then to break that promise. This was done in the case of the Fuel Overseer—the berth, worth about £2 a week, going to a man of independent means. The caretaking at the Recreation Ground, at £2 a week and a house, went to a man already in employment. Such instances are by no means calculated to reduce local unemployment, nor are they fair to men partially disabled, to whom the promised preference should be given.

Pub for Parsons.

Up-to-date, the only parson we know of who goes into a pub regularly every week, to elevate the glass, is the Rev. A. G. James, Minister of Munster Park Wesleyan Church, Fulham. He drinks tonic water while the others drink beer, smokes his pipe, talks to them, by all accounts, like a man and a brother, gives them religion when he can, and politics and back-chat when he can't—and comes away as sober as a Judge. It is an example to the Cloth. Seems to us a wise parson might at times do a lot more good in a pub than he does in the pulpit. And a glass of ale would do him no harm.

"A Slow Coach."

Readers will remember how an ex-soldier, desiring an agency in glassware, got into touch with Louis Konyn, of West Hampstead, and sent 15s. for samples last September. They did not arrive, nor did Mr. Konyn return the money. That gentleman now says he is "much obliged" for our notice; which was "brought to his knowledge by one of his workmen, as he is not in the habit of reading JOHN BULL." That seems a pity; if he got into the habit, it would be to his benefit. But he has returned the 15s.—as he might have done earlier, so saving others some trouble and himself the writing of an absurdly hoity-toity letter.

"THE SOB OF A CHILD."
See Charles Palmer's Article,
Page 6.

Skylarks.

In the opinion of Mr. Clement Arton, of Marston Green, a little knowledge of the destructive habits of the skylark would have obviated our recent paragraph on "Eating the Lark." Saith Mr. Arton, "Apart from the fact that skylarks are good food for human beings, unless they are kept down they would soon become as great a scourge here as rabbits in Australia." Such is the difference between pie and poetry. Wordsworth has given us the lark in poetry; Mr. Arton, with small music in his soul, prefers it in pie.

Those Poultry Houses.

Very many complaints still come to us concerning delay on the part of Huts, Bungalows and Portable Buildings, Ltd., and several points are mystifying. The firm blames the railway for the delay; the Superintendent at Waterloo retorts "there is no justification for the statement." The poultry houses are made at the Inglemere Works, Hounslow, and we find a Mrs. Flint, of Inglemere Poultry Farm, Hounslow, offering free poultry houses to the first 100 purchasers of eight of her pullets. However, the Huts, etc., people have promised us to return the money to applicants tired of waiting. We advise readers to accept, and to see that it is fulfilled.

Weighed in the Balance.

Take a 400-yard reel of Coats' white No. 40 cotton, unwind it, and carefully weigh the thread. At 10d. a reel, it will work out at the astonishing figure of 26s. per lb.! At this price sewing a button on a shirt becomes a costly operation, and we are thinking of resorting to wire.

Divorce Reform.

If a plebiscite were taken on Lord Buckmaster's Bill for Divorce Reform—based on the recommendations of the Majority Report of the Royal Commission—we do not think there would be much question as to the result. Our present divorce law is scandalously unfair, cruel, unwise, and often wicked. The fate of the Bill in the House of Lords, where the influence of the Bishops is considerable, is doubtful.

More Stir Needed in Leicester.

A firm apparently touched with the slows is J. S. Draycott and Son, 22, Belgrave Road, Leicester. In November a reader sent them £2 8s. 6d. for a bale of bedding; he has received a pair of blankets, priced at 14s. 11d. A lady forwarded £2 1s. 6d. for shoes, but when last we heard, she had received no shoes, nor could she get a reply to her letters. As Draycott's continue their advertisements, presumably the goods are in their warehouses. They should be despatched to people who have strained their purse-strings to pay for them.

A Farce.

Up in New Holland, which is by Hull, good spirits arranged a concert to provide hymn-books for the church, the programme including a farce. The Magistrates' Clerk was written to, to ask if a licence was necessary; a fee was sent him, and the police were consulted. Nobody seemed to know anything, but after the performance a letter was received from the Clerk saying the play must not be performed without a licence. A prosecution followed, and 10s. fine was imposed. It was a neat instance of legal pettifogging and police activity in the wrong place.

"Pussyfooting" Tobacco.

We have been invited to lead a great anti-Tobacco Crusade. It is a measure of defence against the shameless profiteering of which the smoker is being made the victim. Looking to the Government in vain for protection against the great Tobacco Combines, our correspondent says that "direct action" in the form of a smokers' strike is the only sure defence. We are reluctant to lead such a movement at the moment, realising how large a number of wage-earners in the tobacco trade would suffer in consequence. But we thoroughly appreciate the fact that *something* must be done—and that quickly.

A Grasping Dealer.

Our old friends Goldman's, of Devonport, have been advertising their eagerness to purchase officers' second-hand uniforms at "record prices." A Birmingham reader packed up his overcoat and tunics, trousers, caps and puttees—which cost him £31 16s., some of the articles being practically new. Goldman's offer for the whole kit was 25s. Very properly, he declined to accept it, whereupon they agreed to return the things on receipt of remittance to cover cost of carriage. In a good many cases, no doubt, ex-soldiers have let their kits go at a ruinous sacrifice rather than be put to the trouble and expense of paying carriage both ways for nothing.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir L. Worthington-Evans, M.P., Minister of Pensions.

Dear Sir Laming,—I am curious to know why it should be necessary for charitable folk to organise concerts, whist-drives, etc., for purposes normally within the province of the Ministry of Pensions. Before me as I write is the programme of a Sacred Concert, "Proceeds in aid of purchasing most modern Artificial Appliances for our Maimed and Limbless Heroes." The concert, it appears, is to be held in the Town Hall of Hamilton, "under the patronage of the Provost, Magistrates and Town Council." Not for a moment, of course, do I deprecate such efforts—although at the same time I am bound to insist that the equipment of our "limbless heroes" with the latest mechanical aids ought not to rest upon the precarious basis of private charity. Please explain. John Bull.

To Judge Dawson Crawford, Waltham Abbey County Court.

Dear Your Honour,—A widow receiving at the rate of £5 monthly a sum of £250, compensation for the death of her husband, applied for a further payment, as she needed the money. Of course, she does. She suffers from rheumatism and has to pay doctors' bills and exist. There being but £50 of the capital sum left, you advised her to go out to work, as a means of improving her health. Now, what kind of work would be offered, do you think, to an invalid woman of 54? Would you employ her? I guess not. I believe you meant well, but you should weigh all the circumstances before distributing gratuitous advice.

John Bull.

To D. J. Rennington, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Kendal.

Dear Mr. Mayor,—Except for grave offences, I most strongly deprecate the infliction upon children of long sentences of detention in Reformatory Schools, and I regret that your influence was not sufficient to prevent the banishment for five years of a youngster of 14, charged with the theft of a few empty sacks. I will not rest the matter simply on the ground of sentiment. What useful moral purpose, I ask, is likely to be served by wrenching this poor lad from his home, and compelling him to associate during the formative period of adolescence with juvenile criminals of all descriptions? A far more sensible and humane course would have been to place the youngster on probation, when in all likelihood you would have heard no more of him. I am afraid that some of the Kendal Magistrates have a lot to learn.

John Bull.

To Mr. Councillor Stone, Deputy-Mayor of Canterbury.

Dear Deputy,—I admire your sturdy patriotism in opposing the decidedly un-English and blatantly commercial proposal to advertise your grand and historic old city in America, with a view to attracting to its hoary gates hordes of lucre-laden Yankees whose first idea would probably be to make a bargain with a view to transferring Canterbury Cathedral to "Gawd's Own Country." The thought of advertising Becket's shrine in the United States, as if it were a circus or a "movie" show, is to me abhorrent; and—although I will not go *quite* so far as you in regarding the American as "no better than the German"—until a better spirit towards this country, and a just appreciation of the immense sacrifices we made in the War is manifested by Uncle Sam, I fail to see why we should angle for the doubtful blessing of his presence amongst us.

John Bull.

To Lord Anderson, High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh.

My Lord,—That miscreant, Joseph Dunn, convicted of a criminal assault upon a two-year-old baby, richly deserved the sentence of seven years' penal servitude that he received at your hands. The protection of child life and of its innocence is among the first duties of a Criminal Judge, and I warmly congratulate you upon this display of just severity in a case which, as you truly remarked, was "too terrible for words." All who love and honour children will applaud your action.

John Bull.

To Cyril Fred Bridle, Colaton Raleigh, Devon.

Young Brute,—You were recently haled before the Exmouth Bench charged with cruelty to a neighbour's fowl. Your treatment of the bird consisted in breaking its leg in four places, its wing in three, and in crushing its liver to a pulp. You admitted having thrown stones at it, but I doubt if such extensive injuries could have been so inflicted. To the lasting discredit of the Magistrates, you were let off with a caution—whereas you richly deserved a severe flogging, and it would have been my pleasure to have ordered you one had I adjudicated on your case. It would have afforded me even greater pleasure to have administered it. John Bull.

To Mr. Woodcock, Accountant, 15, King Alfred Street, Derby.

Sir,—You advertised to the effect that you would "find clerical work for a disabled or one-armed soldier," thereby suggesting that you had a proper regard for the maimed men who fought for us. But I am given to understand that, in the way of pay, all you offered was £1 a week. As an accountant; you are probably aware that the purchasing value of a sovereign to-day is about eight shillings. As a man of experience, you must also be aware that no one can live decently on that meagre sum. The logical conclusion is that you hoped to find a foolish pensioner who would allow you to batten on him. I hope you failed. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Dr. Addison, M.P., Minister of Health.

Dear Doctor Addison,—On two previous occasions I have called your attention to the scandal involved in the employment of women—especially of young girls—as nurse-attendants in male lunatic asylums. Since last I wrote, I have accumulated still further evidence of the widespread evils resulting from this practice. Naturally, I would much prefer that you should recognise the promptings of decency, and sweep away one of the least desirable of war-time expedients, without the need for further publicity. But the scandal *must* end.

John Bull.

To Frederick James Pember, 74, High Street, Harlesden.

Sir,—I understand that you have been granted a licence, by the sapient gentlemen who sit on the Willesden Licensing Bench, for a billiards saloon at the Old Court House, High Street, Harlesden. In view of your war record, you are not "a fit and proper person" to hold a licence of any sort whatever. Although of military age, you appealed against serving your country, and when ordered to join the Volunteers refused to drill. This being the case, you are not the sort of individual whom young men would profitably associate with in a billiard saloon, and I am surprised that Alderman Wright took the opposite view.

John Bull.

To Sir Nevil Macready, Chief Commissioner, Metropolitan Police.

Dear Sir Nevil,—I think it might be as well if you would pay some amount of personal attention to the circumstances in which disabled soldiers have recently been employed at Scotland Yard. You will find, I believe, that a number of men engaged upon clerical duties have been compelled to resign their posts, owing chiefly to the utter lack of consideration shown by their superior officers—a man with one leg, for instance, having been kept standing for hours together, while the "sitting down jobs" went to the able-bodied. As a soldier yourself, you cannot, I am sure, have had any share of personal responsibility for this state of affairs.

John Bull.

To Mrs. Nash, Pink's Hill, Guildford.

Dear Mrs. Nash,—You cannot have been rash. The reason for my saying so is that you have lived a whole century, and this is to congratulate you on the attainment of your hundredth birthday. Mrs. Mary Ann Williams, of Wragby, in Lincolnshire, died the other day at 103, you will be sorry to hear. I hope you will beat her record—especially if you want to; for I think it must be a fine thing to live so long if you have been happy most of the time. It doesn't always follow that because the snow is on the mountains there is no music in the valley. I hope you have all the song birds of life still in your heart, and that through all the time to the end you may have the happiness to enjoy their singing. My blessing is not episcopal—but, for what it is worth, it is yours. John Bull.

To Mr. M. Bernsten, Moneylender, 17, Market Place, Coventry.

Dear Shylock,—I do not call you this on account of your moneylending activities—which I know nothing about—but rather on the strength of the little advertisement you recently had the audacity to insert in a Coventry newspaper. You were wanting, it appears, a "reliable, steady man" as a distributor of handbills from house to house, and for this "permanent situation" you offered the princely wage of 3s. 6d. a day. I cannot say whether the job is yet filled, or whether it still waits for the "lucky applicant"; but one thing at least is certain—and that is that you ought to be thoroughly ashamed of offering a full-grown man 21s. a week. Consider yourself severely reprimanded.

John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Derby, K.G., British Ambassador, Paris.

Dear Lord Derby,—I have read your very admirable speech at the American Club of Paris on Washington Day. When the American Ambassador, Mr. Wallace, referred to the beating America had given Britain through George Washington, it was a very happy rejoinder on your part to remind him that Britain has never been licked by other than British men, and that Washington himself was a Briton as far as British parents could make him one. In another passage you said you hate the man who claims that this or that nation has won the war—"the war was won by the united courage and perseverance of all." Chivalrously, on French soil you "put France before England, because she bore the brunt of the fighting." It appears as if Uncle Sam were coming into the peace as late as he came into the war. He wants to boss and bunk at the same time, and this acrobatic performance isn't good enough—at least, it isn't good enough to elicit any loud applause from me.

John Bull.

FROM PILLAR TO POST.

FATE OF A GALLANT "WARSPITE" BOY.

Shipwrecked at Bougie, N. Africa, before he was 16, while coaling for the Admiralty—only 19 to-day, but with long war experience—an old *Warspite* boy was invalided from the Naval Hospital, Chatham, in August last, suffering from epileptic fits caused by a blow on the head when serving aboard the *Cyclops II.* at Archangel. Since then he has been vainly sent from pillar to post—first to St. George's Hospital as an out-patient; then to the Maida Vale Epileptic and Nerve Hospital as an in-patient; but treated as an out-patient, and being constantly picked up in the streets by the police and others. Placed next in Fulham Infirmary for six weeks, he was sent thence to an epileptic colony at Edmonton, where he was obliged to mix with lunatics, so came out—only to be taken by the police to Kennington Infirmary, where he remains, at a cost to his discharge pension of 19s. a week, until the Pensions Committee can make up their minds what they can do with him. An X-Ray examination of his head, and steady and continuous treatment in a suitable place would no doubt effect a cure. But how can he obtain it?

A "WHO'S WHO" AND WHERE IS IT?

BOOKSELLER WHO SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO BOOK.

Among the firms who are qualifying for a place on our "Black List" is the St. James's Publishing Company, of 42, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. This doubtful concern masks the engaging personality of Mr. M. A. Ross, who during the war hit upon the bright idea of inviting Army officers and other persons of public school education to contribute biographical details to a proposed "Old Public School Boys' Who's Who and Roll of Honour." Ross offered to book advance orders at the reduced price of 16s. instead of 25s.—the cash to accompany the biographical entries. As the book is still in the stage of incubation, Mr. Ross must be in possession of considerable funds to which he has no moral or legal claim. Unless our memory deceives us, the same thing happened with an "Author's Who's Who," similarly projected by this enterprising merchant on an advance subscription basis. It is surprising that customers can still be found to deal on the "cash in advance" principle with persons of no repute.

HARD LABOUR FOR LOITERING.

EFFORTS TO "GO STRAIGHT" FRUSTRATED.

The Oswestry Bench lately had before them John Henry Wallace, who had been arrested on suspicion at 12.50 in the morning, and was charged with "loitering with intent to commit a felony." He stated that, his landlady having gone to bed, he did not like to knock her up, and intended to walk about till morning. When searched, all that was found on him was 3d., a small key, and a bottle of beer, which cannot be reckoned as burglarious implements. His employer described him as straightforward and very attentive to his work, and stated that he had trusted him with money. But, alas, fifteen years ago he had committed an offence in South Africa which earned him three years' penal servitude. His remark to the constable who arrested him: "You have done me; I shall never go straight after this," suggests that he had returned to honest courses. The Bench must have taken the same view, as the Chairman said they took into consideration the good character given by the employer, and the fact that Wallace was trying to go straight—and they would sentence him to one month's hard labour. Hard labour for a mere suspicion, and possibly a sincere effort to live an honest life frustrated!

AFTER THE WIND AND RAIN

FREEMAN'S Glass Lemon and hot water—that's the perfect winter drink. It tones up the whole system and keeps out cold and 'flu; it is ideal for grown-ups and children after work or play. Remember—Freeman's Glass Lemon is made with real lemons—fresh fruit and cane sugar—and it is the real fruit juice that does you good. As for the price, you could not make it yourself for double the money.

Freeman's Glass Lemon

If unable to obtain Glass Lemon from your Grocer or Stores send us the Name and Address of your Retailer, with 1/3, and we will send you a canister of Glass Lemon post free.

Freeman's Food Products Ltd.
WATFORD—HERTS
"Where Pure Foods are made"

MANCHESTER AND THE MAN.

OUR SEARCH FOR A BRITISH CHAMPION BOXER.

By A. G. ("Smiler") Hales.

I had intended to make direct for Manchester at the beginning of the week, but had to return to Walsall to fix a programme and secure a hall for a good boxing entertainment—to take place about the end of the second week in April. This should provide excellent material for one of JOHN BULL's big carnivals. I have made arrangements for a public try-out for several excellent middle-weights. Jim Slater will fight Probyn in a fortnight's time, at a show given by Mr. Bob Parsons, and the winner will be matched with Guardsman Jones—the victor in that contest representing this part of the Midlands at the London tournament for the JOHN BULL Middle-weight Championship Belt. Probyn is said by all the miners to be a lad who will battle as long as there is life in him. Jim Slater I can personally answer for; he is of the old breed, and will fight as long as he can stand. Jones is a tall, strapping young fellow with a tremendous reach; he has a lovely left hand and a good pair of feet. He also is game. In the small division, I have a rare good six-stone-two youngster named Lalley, the son of a good fighter. This youngling will make fistic history before he is as heavy as Jimmy Wilde, and he will have a scrap at our Walsall Tournament. Another lad who will do battle is named Longmore; he is about eight-stone-six, and carries a great big punch as heavy as Jimmy Wilde's. It remains to be seen if he has the other attributes of the Welsh Wizard. He is in the very safe hands of my good friend Mr. Pat Collins, of Walsall. Whilst fixing things there, I had arranged with Mr. Harold Hibbert, of Stockport, to do some "spade-work" for me in his town, as I intend to break fresh ground in my Manchester and District search. I have not been long in this section of Manchester, but already I have heard of a light lad who, if he proves as good as I am told he is, will be a thorn in the side of a lot of London's best. If I could only get back the years the locusts have eaten, *I'd* be a professional boxer—not a war correspondent, journalist or novelist! Will those interested please note that until further notice my address will be "George Hotel, Stockport"?

A WIDOW'S PLIGHT.

GAPING LOOPHOLES IN THE TENANT'S CHARTER.

When a householder dies, does his tenancy die with him or does it survive for the benefit of his widow and family? This was the important question that came up for decision at the Sheffield County Court on an application for an Ejectment Order against Mrs. Elisabeth Maskin, a widow, whose husband if he had lived, would have been entitled to the benefit of the measures in force for the protection of tenants. It appears, the crux of the position was that the husband had died without a Will; and the question for Judge Adshead Elliott to decide was whether, as the widow had failed to take out "Letters of Administration," the tenancy could be regarded as having survived for her benefit. In the end, the learned Judge thought it "extremely hard" if, "on the death of a husband who died intestate, a landlord could almost immediately bring successful proceedings against his widow for ejectment," but he was "afraid that was the law unless she had taken out Letters of Administration." The point is one of great importance, which the Committee now inquiring into the operation of these Acts might well take into consideration. Meanwhile, we are glad to state that, through the kindly intervention of the City Treasurer of Sheffield, the dispossessed widow has at length found another shelter for herself and family.

POOR LITTLE KIDDIES!

INHUMAN TREATMENT OF CHILDREN AND CALLOUS ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAW.

By Charles Palmer, M.P.

THERE is a type of human nature which is naturally inhuman. There are men and women who find harshness congenial and inflicting pain a pleasure. It is the first duty of the law to protect the innocent and the weak. Yet hardly a day passes that we do not find some Magistrate or Judge imposing a grossly inadequate sentence on the guilty, and so putting a premium on cruelty and brutality. Those who regard themselves as unjustly treated by the law have the right of appeal. Who is there to stand up for the children—for the kiddies who, being made the victims of base inhumanity or bestial cruelty, find themselves deserted by the law? For, every crime against the little ones which is not met with condign punishment means an added danger to young and unprotected life.

These thoughts surge like flaming fire through my mind when I conjure up the sufferings of such a child as Wilfred Massy, the 14-year-old son of a farm labourer, whose case was recently before the Magistrates of Bakewell, Derbyshire. Take note of the facts; they are enough to rouse righteous anger in the heart of every mother—yes, and every decent father. The boy, strong in body, but weak of mind, was sent to the farm of his father's sister—a Mrs. Caroline Maycock. Medical testimony showed that when he left to go to them he was in good health. The farmer, Arthur William Maycock, was to feed, lodge and clothe him—the boy to be paid whatever wages he was considered to be worth. He was paid in blows and scourgings. He went there in November; he returned home in two months, just skin and bone, covered with sores and abrasions—his mouth swollen, his head blistered, his left thigh with a wound, six inches long, caused by the buckle end of a strap—"the mark of the buckle," said Dr. Verver, of Selstone, in his evidence, "was visible."

There is not a shadow of doubt that the half-witted lad, instead of evoking the pity and consideration of his aunt and uncle, was treated worse than a dog. The cruel scoundrel who vented his inhuman temper on this lad tried to make out that he had been kicked by cattle. No beast of the field would serve its young as Maycock and his wife served this weak-minded boy. Here is the lad's own testimony, which might be suspect if it were not borne out by other evidence:—They stripped him naked and put him on the floor; his aunt held him down while his uncle thrashed him with a harness strap. "The aunt told the uncle to hit harder." He went up to bed naked, and his uncle followed him and thrashed him again with the strap. A farm labourer told how he saw the merciless Maycock kick the boy and knock him down; a farmer saw the lad being beaten and often heard him screaming. One of the offences of this poor wight—dirty, wasted and weak—was that he was "always eating corn." No wonder that the starving creature munched corn!

And what was the sequel to these heart-rending revelations in as terrible a story of man's brutality as was ever told in a Court of Law? The usual one: "I expect I shall get off by paying," was the comment of this callous scoundrel when the policeman taxed him with his crimes. He was right. The Chairman of the Bench, a Mr. W. Nixon, said: "The defenceless boy had been treated in an abominable manner. 'The Bench had no doubt about it.' And the conduct of the woman in helping her husband was disgraceful." And then note the farcical finish: The case against the inhuman woman was dismissed; the male monster was fined £5!

That is how we protect our children in this Christian land of ours. But the British Empire is wide. What can be done with fiendish impunity in Derbyshire can be perpetrated with equal safety in Demarara. An eleven-year-old girl, Beatrice Campbell, died after being brutally beaten by her unnatural mother. According to medical evidence, "the marks about the child's body showed that she had been severely thrashed." The Doctor who saw the meals said that the mother had shown him the rattan cane with which this cruel punishment had been inflicted.

Mrs. Campbell admitted that the little one fainted after being flogged; that seeing the child in that condition she got afraid and took a bottle of liquid, which she believed to be coconut oil, and poured it on the offended flesh. As she did so, she found she had used Jeyes Fluid instead, and burning was thus added to the bruising. The landlord heard this sexless female flogging the child for five minutes; he pleaded with her to stop. What, think you, was the upshot of *this* debasing story? The doctor who made the post-mortem on this cruelly-used body gave as the cause of death broncho-pneumonia and chronic disease of the kidneys, "probably aggravated by the shock of the injuries received." And this gave the Coroner, Mr. W. J. Gilchrist, his opportunity. He could find nothing better to say than that he "did not believe in sparing the rod," and "if some people who came before that Court had used their cane more frequently it would have been better for the welfare of the children." A child lying dead, with death accelerated—"probably aggravated"—by the very brutal use of the rod, and a Coroner administering Justice under the British flag in a British Possession, has nothing better or more fitting to say than the advocacy of the very conduct which ended in the bruised corpse of a little child! And then came the jury's verdict in accordance with the medical testimony—which medical testimony?—with the addition that "no one was criminally responsible"! In this country, the ignorance and caprice of the ordinary Bench of Magistrates has become a byword and a reproach. But where a man is a paid official (and Mr. Gilchrist was a Stipendiary Magistrate, acting as Coroner), failure to uphold the law and protect the children should be met with dismissal. There will be no adequate protection for the kiddies while such crimes as these are immune from Justice.

FIRE—BUT NO WATER.

SOUTHEND DRY IN THE HOUR OF DANGER.

Not long ago we commented on the arbitrary and capricious way in which the domestic water supply is turned on and off at Southend and Westcliff. The inhabitants have to collect the water in baths and basins and tubs whenever they can get it—which is only at certain, or uncertain, hours. The possibility of dire calamity as a result of these restrictions was revealed by the burning to death in her bedroom of an old lady of 84, living at Cambridge Road, Southend. In the early hours of a recent morning, neighbours saw that her room was on fire. One brave man forced the door and rushed in to the rescue, but was too late. The old lady, in her night clothes, was already dead—burned and charred. The room was ablaze, and the man, Mr. Hebden, set to work to stay the flames. For this task he was compelled to collect jugs of water from the stores of the neighbours, for, of course, there was no supply then on the premises—it had been cut off according to regulations. Mrs. Hebden, meanwhile, had gone for the fire brigade and to warn the water works people. Yet it was more than an hour before the brigade arrived and the water was turned on. The official excuse was "a defect in the fire-alarm," but that does not help the situation. For it is quite evident that the cut-off water supply may at any moment result in the spreading of a calamitous fire, disastrous alike to life and property. Southend in this particular is sadly behind the times.

£50 A WEEK—OR LESS.

GO TO PUTNEY FOR A PIG IN A POKE.

A golden lure for perfect mugs is offered by an advertisement that has appeared frequently in the provincial Press. These are the glowing terms: "£50 weekly easily made by gentlemen in a position to render Advertiser slight service. Address: Wilson, 10, High Street, Putney, London." Inquisitive applicants, not averse from picking up fifty pounds as easy pocket-money, get a reply from Thos. Wilson, of Thos. Wilson and Co. (the "firm" consisting of G. Price and T. Wilson) who dub themselves Commission Agents. The scheme proposed is so simple—for Wilson. He alleges: "I am connected with a Syndicate that has the working of starting price jobs and I have the use of this information providing the horses are backed in the provinces." So he wishes to cajole country sportsmen, who are to do his betting and find the money, into "putting on first of all £3 to win the first winner I send, and remitting me one third of the winnings the day after the race. I expect you to increase the stakes after each winner." That, if you please, is the way sporting gentlemen are to earn easily a small fortune—by making big bets for a total stranger with their own money, paying all losses from their own pocket, and giving up a third of the profit if ever a guess came off. Our nurse used to bid us, "Go to Putney for a pig." In this case it would be going to Putney for a pig in a poke. Wilson's telegraphic address is "Leviathan." It needs one word added—"Cheek."

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN?

A SOLDIER'S HONOUR AND THE NATION'S NEGLECT.

Listen to this—from an ex-soldier from overseas who, after five years' Army service, most of it in the front line trenches, wears the Distinguished Service Order and the Military Cross. "When in August, 1914, the news was flashed round the world that England had declared war against the Hun, thousands of Britishers in every corner of the earth started like runners when the pistol cracks. The winning post was London, and the prize a Tommy's tunic or a Sam Browne belt; it mattered not which to these patriots." Before the end of 1914 our friend thus came over from Australia at his own expense, a matter of £55, to join the Colours; yet, although the War Office afterwards undertook to refund the passage money in such cases, he has received but £27, and that only after wearisome delay. But his principal complaint is that, in spite of the lavish undertakings of the Government, the difficulties of the discharged soldier who has no berth to return to are as great as in the first days of the Armistice. At the outbreak of war he held a lucrative appointment as an engineer, compensation for the loss of which he neither asks nor expects—but, in common with many other good men, he feels it a hardship that all his efforts to obtain decent employment on this side should have met with failure. Poor fellow he cannot live on his "honours." Scarcely a day passes without some such painful illustration of the nation's failure to discharge its debt to heroes of the war

SALARIES TREBLED AND QUADRUPLED.

SUCCESS SECRETS REVEALED in NEW PELMAN COURSE

INTENSE PUBLIC INTEREST.

Complete Synopsis of 1920 Pelmanism Free on Application To-day.

THE publicity given to the amazing facts and figures in relation to Pelmanism has resulted in an enormous demand for free particulars of the New (1920) Pelman Course.

Intense public interest has been aroused by the striking evidence of the great numbers of Pelmanists who have trebled and quadrupled their incomes as a direct result of adopting the training of Pelmanism.

The New (1920) Pelman Course has leapt to instant success. There is a continuous daily stream of keenly interested callers at Pelman House, and applications for full particulars of the new Course are pouring in by every post. Everything goes to show that the Re-Pelmanised Pelmanism, upon which the Advisory Board of the Pelman Institute were engaged during the whole of 1919, will eclipse even the marvellous achievements of its forerunner.

And, side by side with this evidence of popular favour comes the startling testimony as to the *resultfulness* of the Course. From all over the country there still continues to arrive a never-ending flood of letters and reports telling of amazing personal achievements following upon the adoption of the Pelman principles so clearly expounded in "the little grey books."

Salaries trebled and quadrupled, promotion accelerated, efficiency increased, minds broadened and strengthened, personality made powerful, originality and organising power developed—these are some of the benefits which are reported daily.

Every reader of "JOHN BULL" should make application at once for a free copy of the 46th edition of "Mind and Memory," which contains a full Synopsis of the New (1920) Pelman Course. This, together with a great deal of interesting literature and personal testimony, and a special reduced-fee enrolment form, will be sent gratis and post free on application by postcard or the coupon below to The Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1,

£1,000 FOR ONE IDEA.

AMAZING FACTS AND FIGURES.

To-day's Great Opportunity for "John Bull" Readers.

The Directors of the Pelman Institute to-day make an offer of which every ambitious and go-ahead reader of "JOHN BULL" should take immediate advantage. Gratis and post free you may obtain, on application by postcard or the coupon below, the following particulars of the New (1920) Pelman Course, and thus take the first step towards that personal success, the attainment of which a Pelman training makes certain.

WHAT THE POST WILL BRING YOU.

1. A copy of "Mind and Memory." This book gives a **complete and exhaustive Synopsis of the New (1920) Pelman Course.** It tells you exactly what Pelmanism is; what it has done for thousands of others, and what it can do for you. It contains a number of remarkable letters in which men and women tell of the marvellous results which follow from a short course of Pelmanism.

2. A full Report of the special investigation of Pelmanism which has been made by the famous journal "Truth," entitled "Pelmanism: A National Asset."

3. A supplement entitled "Pelmanism as an Intellectual and Social Factor," which deals with the higher values of the Course.

4. A special reduced-fee enrolment form.

ASTONISHING EVIDENCE.

Some of the testimony in regard to the results of Pelmanism given in "Mind and Memory" (as freely offered above) is astonishing.

For instance, on page 19 appears a letter from Pelmanist M.10572, who says:

"I shall have further communications to send you in a few months' time showing you the further benefits I have derived from Pelmanism. I need only say that I have cleared over one thousand pounds from one idea which materialised by Pelman methods."

This is only one significant instance of the splendid resultfulness of a Pelman training. At the Pelman Institute there are thousands of letters which tell of the wonderful profits which accrue to the individual as the result of the short and pleasant Pelman Course of mental development. They give definite instances of remarkable increases of salary and profits, important promotions and many other benefits both material and intellectual.

£1,200 A YEAR MORE.

Pelmanism *pays*—that is the unanimous verdict of over 500,000 men and women who have adopted and applied this training to their work and their lives.

Another man—a Director of an important firm—writes to say that his income has been increased by £1,200 a year as a direct result of his adoption of the practical productive principles of Pelmanism.

Pelmanism develops the potentialities of the individual mind to the full. That is the secret of the extraordinary results which Pelmanists report from day to day.

There are hidden forces in the mind of every man and woman—forces which if brought into operation and used for the betterment of their possessor, unfailingly lead on from success to success.

Psychologists have during the last few years made some of the most surprising discoveries in regard to the unconscious mind. They have found that "the mind behind the mind," as it is sometimes called, is a rich reservoir of creative power; that its influence upon the conscious mind can be developed to such an extent that anyone can realise his or her greatest ambitions.

Many of the most valuable of these new Psychological discoveries are embodied in the New (1920) Pelman Course. They are treated in a plain commonsense way which everyone can understand and assimilate, and are *practically* applied to the experiences of everyday life.

A FULLY-DEVELOPED MIND.

In the ranks of those who have not taken steps to completely train their minds, the possessors of all the qualities which go to make up the "full intellect" are seldom met.

The following are some of the mental qualities which are vital to successful endeavour in whatever sphere a person's life may be cast, qualities which Pelmanism develops to their fullest capacity in men and women of every type and calling.

Whatever your occupation in life, if you would rise to the top, your mental equipment must include these essentials:—

Concentration	**Self-Control**
Observation	**Self-Confidence**
Quick Perception	**Tact**
Will Power	**Management**
Decision	**Organising Power**
Foresight	**Salesmanship**
Judgment	**Directive Ability**
Initiative	**Reasoning Power**
Originality	**Accuracy, and Never-**
Imagination	**Failing Memory.**

WHY PELMANISTS SUCCEED.

Pelmanism develops the qualities necessary for a rapidly successful career in a surprisingly short space of time.

From the very first lesson the effect of the precepts and exercises of Pelmanism begins to be felt. Indeed, some of the most enthusiastic letters of tribute to Pelmanism have been written by students after taking only a few lessons. Here is an extract from one such letter:—

"Even after one lesson one feels mentally fitter, and arising from that one feels a greater interest in everything that goes on around one. I look forward to the next lesson with great interest."

And, despite the wonderful rapidity with which Pelmanism enables its students to get concrete results, it is not the least bit irksome or difficult to carry out. In your own home, at your own convenience, you can study it. It is reduced to such simplicity that people of even the humblest education find it delightfully fascinating and recreative.

ASTONISHING INCOME INCREASES.

RISE OF £28 A MONTH

The following letters taken at random from the masses of reports received at the Pelman Institute speak more eloquently in favour of Pelmanism than columns of argument. They represent but a mere fraction of the evidence voluntarily tendered by Pelmanists. The whole of this issue of "JOHN BULL" could be filled with such tributes.

SALARY INCREASED 300 PER CENT.

"Please accept my best thanks. . . . . I have improved 300 per cent. in salary." From a Clerk.

INCREASE OF £200.

"I have benefited very greatly on the financial side, having just recently received a rise in salary of £200 a year, bringing me up to £550, a figure undreamt of a year or so ago. I consider that the Pelman Course is, from the standpoint of money alone, a most profitable investment, and from the intellectual standpoint a veritable resurrection of the mind." From an Electrical Engineer.

RISE OF £28 A MONTH.

"When I took up your Course I was being employed for £3 15s. 0d. per week, and had not the confidence in myself to accept a higher position. Since then I was offered, and to my surprise summoned up pluck enough to accept, a position at £38 per month, which was made £40 a month later and is now £43 10s. 0d. This you will admit is quite a respectable increase, and I am indebted to you for the pluck to accept the offer." From a Fitter.

RISE OF £145.

"The chief benefits which I have derived from the Course are: increased self-confidence; greater interest power; wider outlook; keener mental grasp; more tenacious memory; ability to do more work and better work with greater rapidity and less fatigue; and a rise of £145 per annum in salary." From a Clerk.

Full particulars of the New Pelman Course are given in "Mind and Memory," which also contains a complete descriptive Synopsis of the 12 lessons. A copy of this interesting booklet, together with a full reprint of "Truth's" famous Report on the work of the Pelman Institute and particulars showing how to secure the complete Course on special terms, may be obtained gratis and post free by any reader of "JOHN BULL" who applies to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1 (or call at the Institute).

Use this Coupon or a Postcard or Call to-day.

TO THE PELMAN INSTITUTE,
15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street,
London, W.C.1.

Sir,—Please send me, gratis and post free, a copy of the book "Mind and Memory," a copy of "Truth's" latest Report, and particulars of the Offer entitling me to take the New (1920) Pelman Course on special terms.

Name.....

Address.....

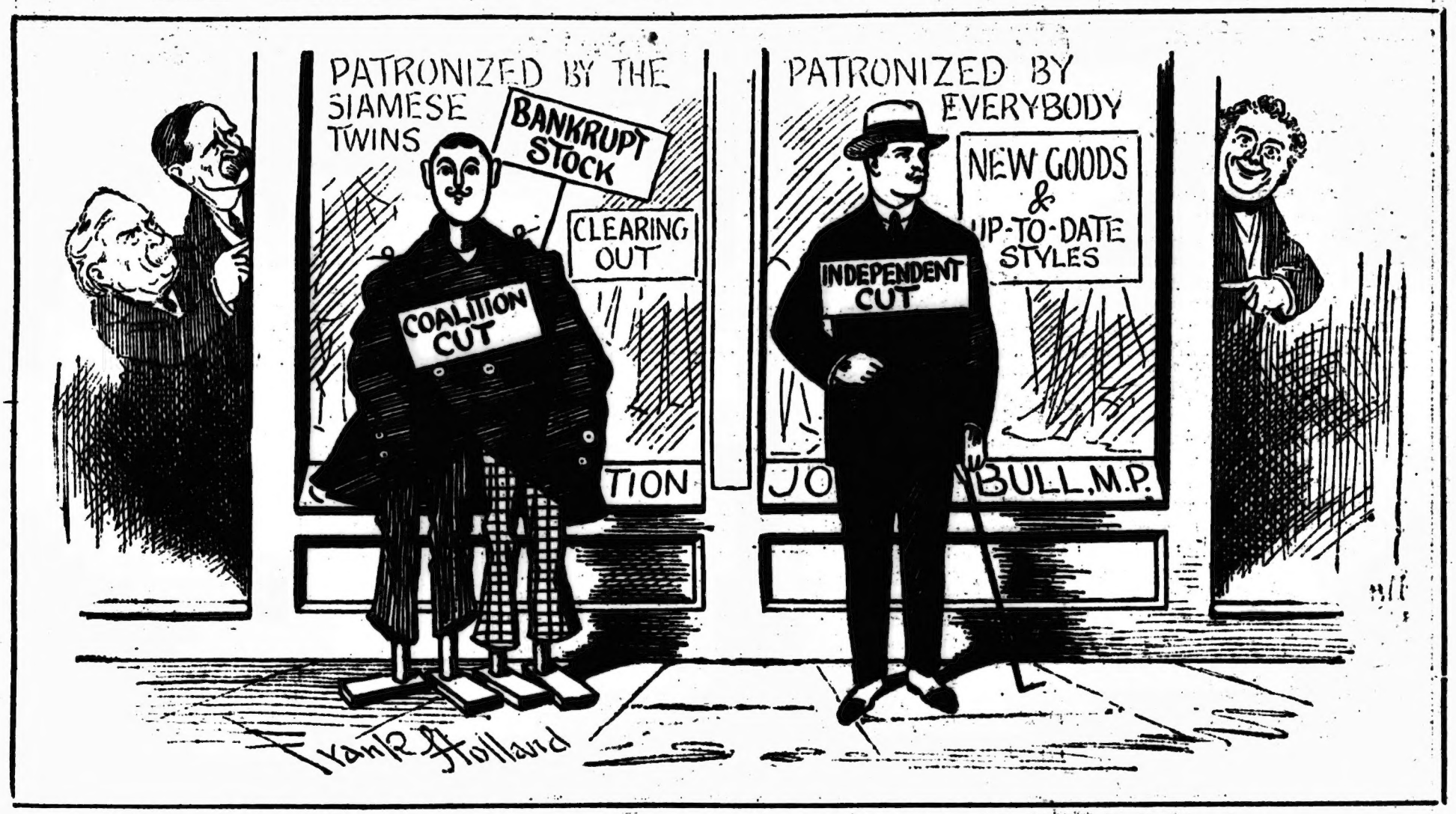
.....

All Correspondence is Confidential.

Overseas Addresses:—505, Fifth Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.; Temple Building, Toronto: 46/48, Market Street, Melbourne: Club Arcade, Durban; Chowpatti Sea Face, Bombay.

The SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM—the only Sunday evening paper.

OLD STOCK AND NEW STOCK AT STOCKPORT.



John Bull, M.P., starts a Political Tailor's Shop.

OLD OFFENDERS.

MANCHESTER FIRM'S SHADY RECORD MAINTAINED.

As a number of readers seem to have missed our earlier references to the matter, we venture once more to warn the public against the Universal Stores, Ltd., of 21, Cannon Street, Manchester directors, J. Dubner, declared to be "British," and A. H. Rosenson, described as a Russian subject. The list of goods dealt in covers almost every known commodity, from cutlery and jewels to ladies' underwear. Latterly the principal source of dissatisfaction with the Universal Stores, Ltd., has been an alleged "Prize Coupon" scheme, by which anyone disposing of four advertising coupons at 1s. each is to be at liberty to select a reward from a list of "special prizes" submitted, each purchaser of a 1s. coupon being favoured in his turn with a similar offer. The commonest complaint is that, having received the money for the coupons sold, the firm either denies all knowledge of the transaction or else employs one trumpery pretext or another to postpone or avoid the award of the promised prize. We have seldom had a larger budget of complaints against a single firm.

Again, the public authorities should enquire whether Messrs. J. Dubner (British) and A. H. Rosenson (Russian) are not really identical with "R. Rose (British) and S. Cowan (Russian)," who under the title of the Provincial Supply Stores, and from the appropriately named address of 432, Cheetham Hill, also in Manchester, are making the same offer, in a lengthy circular reading word for word with that of the Universal Stores, except for the title and names of proprietors and that the sum asked is sixpence instead of a shilling. What says the Registrar of Business Names, for instance?—although he seems never to bring an offender to book.

TAINTED JUSTICE.

RECENT CASE EMPHASISES NEED FOR A PUBLIC DEFENDER.

It is perhaps natural that proceedings before Magistrates should be conducted in a somewhat less formal manner than High Court proceedings, but there are certain salutary rules framed in the interests of justice that ought always to be observed. One of these is in regard to what is known as "hearsay evidence." Too often we find Magistrates admitting all sorts of tittle-tattle with reference to a prisoner's character—listening, for instance, to long and rambling statements from the police, who, in the absence of a defending solicitor, are apt grossly to exceed the limits of fair pleading. There was a case in point the other day, when a poor Penzance woman was charged with an offence against public morals. As far as police records went, the prisoner's character was "good"—that is to say, there was no previous conviction of any sort against her.

If the woman had had a lawyer, the fact would no doubt have been allowed to count in her favour; but, as it was, owing to the weakness of the Magistrates, a police-officer was allowed to get up and air his eloquence at the unfortunate woman's expense, stating that he had "had her under observation for a long time" and had "seen her with hundreds of men"—in short, so long as there was no one to cross-examine his statements, he had nothing too bad to say about her. How far these improper statements may have influenced the decision of the Bench it is impossible to tell, but it is scarcely believable that unless their minds had been thoroughly prejudiced against the hapless defendant they would have sentenced her to 14 days' hard labour for a first offence. What a difference it would make if every police-court had its Public Defender! We must keep pegging away.

PARSONICAL IMPUDENCE.

IRISH CLERIC, HIS COOK-GENERAL AND AN EX-SOLDIER.

An ex-soldier, who tells us that his Army discharge papers are good, has been advertising for employment—the only reply received in the space of three months being from the Rev. J. Graham, of Upham Rectory, Killenaule, Tipperary, who evidently has a poor idea of the courtesy due to a man who has served his King and country. It is impossible to do justice to the letter except by full quotation:—

> I have had a letter from Lieut. —— about you, and I wish to give employment to the men who fought the treacherous Huns; but I must have a clear understanding with anyone I engage. Unless you mean to do your work, be absolutely steady and regular in your hours, and agreeable and willing to oblige, don't come to me. I am a clergyman with only a maid in the house as cook and general servant, and there must be no familiarities or disrespect shown her. The moment I find out that you would do such things I shall dismiss you without notice; otherwise you will get a month's notice unless for misconduct, and you will have to give me the same. I am very strict and particular, and if you are able to do my work, I shall give you a chance. If you show this letter to Lieut. —— he will give you a third-class single ticket to Luffam Bridge. . . . Write when you can come.
>
> J. GRAHAM.

The recipient of this insolent communication might have been excused if, while declining the proffered engagement, he had admonished the rev. gentleman to behave himself with the cook-general. People who are so "strict and particular" should try to be civil as well. The women and children of France and Flanders who flew for protection from those same "treacherous Huns" to the comrades of the man whom Mr. Graham thus insults, have borne wonderful testimony to the honour of the British soldier.

Men's Stout . 5/6
„ Light . 4/6
Ladies' . . 3-
per set (soles and heels)

The Ladies' Sizes are suitable for Boys and Girls.

HEELS SOLD SEPARATELY—
Men's Stout . 2/-
„ Light . 1/6
Ladies' . . 1/-
per pair.

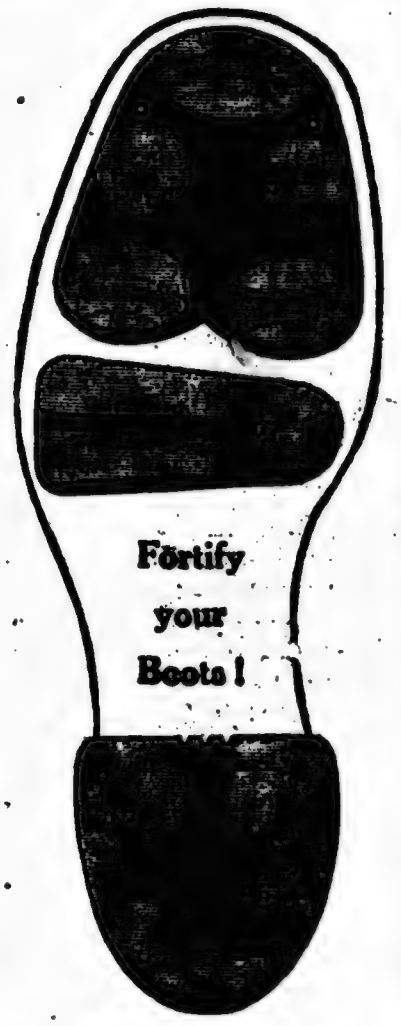
FROM ALL BOOTMAKERS

Phillips' Patents, Ltd.,
142-146, Old Street,
London, E.C.1.

¶ Thin Rubber Plates, with raised studs, to be attached on ordinary soles and heels, giving complete protection from wear.

Phillips' 'Military'
SOLES AND HEELS
make one pair of boots last the time of three.

¶ They keep feet dry in wet weather, give a smooth, pleasant tread and do not slip. Excellent for general wear by men, women and children. Ideal for Golf.



An Irish Colleen carrying sea-weed collected from the shore. The weed is burnt, and the resultant soft, mild ash is used in manufacturing McClinton's Soaps.

It comes from the land where the grass grows green. It's refreshingly sweet as an Irish Colleen.

MADE entirely from pure, sweet, skin-nourishing vegetable oils and plant ash, McClinton's Shaving Soaps and Cream yield a superlatively creamy, non-drying lather which makes your razor's play easy and your shave a delight. You owe it to your chin to buy

McCLINTON'S
Shaving Soap & Cream

Hibernia Shaving Sticks, in nickel cases 1/3; in metal tins, 1/-. McClinton's Shaving Cream in amber jars or tubes; large size, 1/6; small, 1/-

McCLINTON'S LTD. (Dept. A.G.), DONAGHMORE, TYRONE

PLAYER'S "COUNTRY LIFE"

Cigarettes
(MEDIUM STRENGTH)
PURE VIRGINIA TOBACCO
10 FOR 5½D.
50 FOR 2/3

Smoking Mixture
In Two Strengths—
MILD and MEDIUM
1/- per ounce.
4/- per ¼-lb. tin.

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Branch of The Imperial Tobacco Co. (of Great Britain and Ireland), Ltd.

A FRIEND IN NEED.

"VITA" CIGARETTE MAKER.

Makes 26 FILTERED or MOUTHPIECE, or 25 ordinary cigarettes instantly (with cigarette papers or tubes) with 1 oz. tobacco; equals 7 for 1d.; best tobacco 4 for 1d. Filtered cigarettes prevent Sore Throats, and save 30 per cent. tobacco, as there is No waste. Any tobacco can be used. Only weighs 3 oz. Fits in Cigarette Case. LADIES can use it.

Prices: Nickel, 2/-; Silver-plated, 2/6; Rolled Gold, 5/-; Hygenic Paper Tubes, 3/- 1000; 1/6 500. Post free. Also Trade Supplied.
KNIGHT'S VITA (Dept. J), Limehill Road, Tunbridge Wells.

The SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM—the only Sunday evening paper.

In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "John Bull" discuss matters of Public Interest.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 22.

Superfluous Buildings.

Who is it that passes the plans for the reconstruction of the already colossal West End Stores at this critical time, when thousands of people are in need of homes? The proprietors of these huge emporiums have had the time of their lives during the war—consequently, with their surplus capital, they are able to commandeer all the labour and material for their selfish requirements.—M. M. Meredith, Bonfield Rd., Clapham.

The Decimal System.

Now, in these days of reconstruction and of restriction, is the time for the compulsory introduction of the decimal system. The benefits of it are obvious, and if this opportunity is lost—now that people are more or less "resigned" to have their daily life regulated by edicts—its adoption (which *must* come eventually) will be much more difficult.—(Dr.) P. J. Burke, St. Colms, Sligo.

Official "Index-Figures."

Where do the authorities get those "index figures" to show the cost of living has increased 130 per cent. since 1914? Boots, clothes, butter, milk, eggs, meat, beer, spirits, candles, and so on, are from three to four times their pre-war price. The few things that are "only" double are more than counterbalanced by the things which have risen in price beyond all limits—sugar, matches, etc.—T. H. Timcon, Darlingford Road, Hampstead.

Income Tax and Rebate.

Shareholders with small incomes lose a great deal of money in the aggregate by not knowing they are entitled to a rebate of 3s. out of the 6s. in the £ paid over by their companies as Income Tax. It should be made compulsory for all these concerns to advise their shareholders, when remitting dividends, that they are entitled to a rebate of so much if incomes do not exceed so and so—and that it applies whether the dividend is "less tax" or "free."—James Landreth, Kimberley Road, Cardiff.

Church Services.

From the labourers' point of view, the Church services want revision. Have popular and really musical services at 8 o'clock and 8 o'clock. Many working men and young folk would be attracted thereby. Let "Evensong" be short and bright, having only well-known hymns, and on all occasions brief, direct sermons—not read from a paper, but straight from the preacher's heart. This is the candid opinion of many thousands of the really poor working class.—W. Moony, Schull, Co. Cork.

Parliament and the Press.

As the evening papers are bought more by the working classes, more space should be given to Parliamentary news than is done at present. We find murders and divorces practically reported in detail, though if *they* were cut down by three parts it would be better for all. The space thus provided should be devoted to what our Members of Parliament are doing, also to any other subject of real national importance. This would be a benefit to our country and Empire, and would go a long way towards reducing the prevalent unrest.—Arthur Wheatley, Ebrington Street, Garston.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. A. E. O'Brien.

Bought Badges.

It should be illegal for the Silver Badge to be sold at the rate of five shillings each, for anyone to wear. This badge was given to show that a man has been discharged disabled, through his service to the Empire, and to permit the badge to be sold stultifies the purpose for which it was meant.—A. Walters, Sandford-on-Thames, Oxford.

Constantinople.

My personal experience of the Turk is that when among other European nations (as in Constantinople) he behaves himself tolerably well, whereas away from the cities (as in Asia Minor) he is a savage. By driving the "Sublime Porte" out of Europe the most dangerous element would be freed from the restraining influence of the Great Powers, and therefore be a much greater menace to the surrounding countries.—C. A. Lewis, Barrow Road, Streatham.

Pit-Ponies' "Hell."

As a collier of 10 years' experience, I state emphatically that ponies should be abolished from the coal-pits. It is easily practicable. In the South Wales coalfields haulage work on the main roads is done by engines—some endless rope and some main and tail rope—the horse working only in the headings or roads. Now where headings or roads slope badly a donkey engine—known as a "coffee-pot"—substitutes the horse. What can be done for convenience should be enforced in the cause of humanity. Only those who have witnessed it can know what the best friend of man suffers in the pit!—A. E. O'Brien, Bloomsbury Street, Cheltenham.

"Sugar for Jam."

It would be more fair if the sugar which is "earmarked" for public jam-making was used to supplement—say, to the extent of a quarter of a pound per week—the present meagre allowance of 6 ozs. per head, without restriction as to its use. Those who make their own jam could then save it out of their extra allowance, and the rest could use it in puddings or such treats as they cannot get on the present ration. Thus everybody would have his share in one way or other.—M. A. Hubbard, Fulham Road, S.W.

Fatal "Coal."

The papers lately have told of several fatal accidents to children and others from burning coals bursting from open fire-grates. The evident cause is stone or other foreign matter being mixed with the coal. But I read nowhere of a verdict of manslaughter against the supplier or original vendor of the coal! If I can prove that an hotel proprietor poisoned me with bad fish, I can sue him for damages. Why cannot a claim lie against the purveyor of *adulterated coal*? Is it because we don't pay enough for it?—A. Weston, Downs Court Road, Purley.

How to keep a Maid.

To keep a good maid you must treat her as a human being. A good idea adopted in many homes now is that of allowing her a room in which to receive her friends. She doesn't wish to go out half so much then, and is really more contented indoors. When she knows her work leave her to do it, and she will do it well and quickly. That's the sort of household where a maid says—"I would not leave my place for worlds!"—A. Richardson, Muguet Lane, Maltby.

Crowded Cinemas.

Owing to the general demand for evening entertainment, all cinemas are overcrowded every night and in most cases the late arrival is never informed by the attendants that his chance of a seat is hopeless. Though all gangways may be choked, the policy of "grab" still keeps the pay-box busy. When there is no reasonable chance of a seat being obtained, managements should be compelled to exhibit a notice to this effect. Not only is the overcrowding insanitary, but in case of fire the effect would be disastrous.—Frank C. Louis, Tremadoc Road, Clapham.

Bread or Cakes?

The shortage of wheat is serious, and the price of our daily loaf will soon be higher. The Government say it is due to shortness of supplies of imported wheat. Are they doing their best to remedy matters? I think not. Let them prohibit the manufacture of all fancy cakes and pastries—of which we see huge stacks at 4d. and 6d. each; luxuries we cannot afford and can very well do without. The saving in flour would go a long way to help our dwindling stocks and carry us over the critical times ahead.—S. Tasker, Worcester Park, Surrey.

Parliamentary "Promises."

Do men lose their will power and all sense of truth and honour when they enter the House of Commons? What about the non-fulfilment of the promises of the successful candidates at the last General Election? Now it is: no indemnity from Germany; their criminals to be tried by their pals; the Kaiser not to be brought to justice; aliens still here and others pouring in; scandalous waste still going on; profiteering rampant; prices daily soaring; national and parochial expenditure unchecked; houses non-existent; heroes starving and homeless. "Oh! What a happy land is England!"—A. Greaves, Green Lanes, N. 21.

A Territorial Air Force.

The formation of a Territorial Air Force has apparently been shelved indefinitely, on the ground of expense. Yet there are thousands of demobilised flying-men who would gladly devote a fortnight or so per annum to "keeping their hands in," without payment, if the authorities would provide the necessary machines, aerodromes, etc. Flying-machines will be the chief factor in the next war, and it would be a very costly matter to keep up a large *permanent* Air Force. A Territorial Air Force is the only other alternative, as it is certain that, for some time to come, commercial aviation will be unable to supply the necessary reserves in case of emergency.—Seymour J. Miller, Graham Road, Hackney.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

This is a writing on the wall
Which, frankly, we don't like at all

It would be easier to find "stars,"
No doubt, if it were not for ma's.

As in the days before "The Day,"
The Huns their arrogance display.

At last Carpentier—strangest thing!
Has met his "match" within the ring!

1. **Miss P. B. HARDING** writes:—"Composing, as I do, lyrics and music, I suffer from **mental exhaustion.** I was ordered a prolonged rest, which would have upset my plans. Luckily, Phosferine came to the rescue, and I am now in perfect health."

2. **Mr. L. NEILSON CLARE** writes:—"I went under a very serious operation which left me very weak. I was unable to follow my employment as an actor for some months. After taking Phosferine for a week, I began to feel decidedly better and am now again able to work, doing film work during the day and appearing at the theatre at night."
Actors' Assoc., 32, Regent Street, W.1.

3. **Mr. FRED. BARNES** (photo by Dobson, Liverpool) the famous light comedy star) writes:—"I must be in tip-top condition if brain and nerves are to function properly. I find that Phosferine is the one tonic remedy that dispels fatigue and tones up the **nervous system.** Phosferine has an immediate beneficial effect." The Palladium, London.

4. **Miss B. G. RICHARDSON** writes:—"I have been suffering from **Chronic Neuralgia** for a fortnight and could get no rest at night. After taking 6 Phosferine Tablets I was completely cured; it was hard to realise that only a few hours before taking the tablets I had been in agonies of pain." 7, St. Thomas Street, Scarborough.

5. **Mr. E. C. NAPIER** writes:—"I contracted **Malaria** and was put under treatment, but was not cured. I decided to take Phosferine, and since that I have not been worried with Malaria. To the contrary I have felt quite fit, and my nerves were never in better condition."
51, Kimberley Gardens, Harringay.

These popular celebrities are All Agreed Phosferine makes it certain they have the vitality to gain and retain the distinction they so constantly win—Phosferine ensures that the nerve centres provide the extra vital force which always enables them to employ their powers to the uttermost.

When you require the Best Tonic Medicine, see that you get

PHOSFERINE

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

NEURALGIA, MALARIA, EXHAUSTION,

Influenza	Maternity Weakness	Lassitude	Nerve Shock
Nervous Debility	Premature Decay	Neuritis	Neurasthenia
Indigestion	Mental Exhaustion	Faintness	Rheumatism
Sleeplessness	Loss of Appetite	Brain Fag	Headache
Backache	Stomach Disorders	Anæmia	Sciatica

Phosferine has a world-wide repute for curing disorders of the nervous system more completely and speedily and at less cost than any other preparation.

SPECIAL BUSINESS NOTE. Phosferine is made in liquid and Tablets, the Tablet form being particularly convenient for business men and women, all outdoor workers, travellers, sportsmen, etc. It can be used any time, anywhere, in accurate doses, as no water is required. The 3/- tube is small enough to carry in the pocket and contains 90 doses. *Your* sailor or soldier will be the better for Phosferine—send him a tube of tablets. Sold by all Chemists, Stores, etc. Prices: 1/3, 3/- and 5/-

The 3/- size contains nearly four times the 1/3 size.

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The ONLY Firm that make every Garment throughout in their own workrooms!

Call or Write for a Copy FREE.

THE Firm with over 150,000 Customers—The Rego Clothiers—have 33 Branches in the London District for the supply of

London-Tailored Men's Wear
Direct from Manufacturer to Wearer

MAKING every garment throughout in our own workrooms, and buying such huge quantities of Cloths and other materials direct from the mills,

We save our Customers all Intermediate Profits

that make prices so high elsewhere.

EVERY customer for "Rego Clothes" does business with us under the fair-and-square "Original Rego Guarantee" of *Money-Back-if-not-satisfied.* This applies to any customer ordering at any "Rego Branch" or by Post from any part of the world.

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1. A five times wider choice of patterns than anywhere else.
2. The services of long-experienced London Master-Cutters.
3. The fine work of Master-Tailors.
4. The full benefit of superior cloths, etc., direct at mill prices.
5. SUITS TO MEASURE, West-End quality of cut, Material and finish at only 84/-, and when we supply a garment or suit "to measure" it is so—NOT, as in so many cases, a "ready-made" garment or suit.
6. READY-TO-WEAR SUITS, cut and made by the same Cutters and Tailors at only 70/-

THIS SUIT MADE TO MEASURE **84/-** Fit, Style and Satisfaction Guaranteed or MONEY RETURNED

QUICK DELIVERY. NO WAITING.

FREE "FASHIONS FOR MEN" Magazine. Call at any "Rego" Branch (see below) or WRITE TO-DAY for a Complimentary Copy of the *Fashions for Men* Magazine. It contains photo-engravings of all the Smart New 1920 Styles for Men's Wear. Country and Overseas Readers also receive a Tape-Measure and Self-Measurement-Order-Form, enabling them to order by post.

Address Postal Communications to "REGO" CLOTHIERS, Ltd., 134-135, High Street, Shoreditch, London.

See your nearest "REGO" Branch:

E.C.
191, Aldersgate Street.
19/20, Aldgate.

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288, Edgware Road.
HAMMERSMITH.—109, King St.
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WOOLWICH.—75/77, Powis St.
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PECKHAM.—100, Rye Lane.
361/3, WALWORTH ROAD.
CHATHAM.—105, High Street.

S.W.
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WALHAM GREEN. — 14, The Broadway.
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BALHAM.—100, High Road.
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CROYDON.—77/79, North End.
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E.
ILFORD.—58, The Broadway.
WALTHAMSTOW.—143/5, Hoe St.
134/5, High Street, Shoreditch.

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50, Bethnal Green Road.
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THE TRICK

The Clouds are Lifting—Daily Menace of Anarc

By TH

MARCH 11th, 1920, was a "red-letter day" in the annals of Parliament; yet a diligent search of the next morning's newspapers might have discovered nothing exceptional in the proceedings of the House of Commons. For the centre of attraction was an "away match"—played not "on the floor" at St. Stephens, but opposite, at the Central Hall, Westminster, where a Special Trade Union Congress sat to decide an issue of vast importance to the cause of Democracy in these islands. Technically, the Congress had to decide what action should be taken by the Trade Unions in support of the Miners' demand for "nationalisation," but there was far more in it than that—as every delegate knew. On that fateful morning history was to be made. A day earlier the Miners' Conference, meeting separately, had issued a defiant challenge to Parliament—declaring, by what under the "block veto" system is humorously termed a "majority," that "Direct Action" should be employed to force the hands of the Government on the question of nationalisation. By a so-called majority of 178,000 votes, the Miners' delegates had decided upon a "general strike" as a weapon to coerce the State—in a word, for Revolution. I am anxious to avoid exaggeration, but I will say this: if that decision had been Labour's last word on the subject, I should have been writing to-day with a sense of responsibility as terrific as when, five years and more ago, this gallant nation met the fell challenge of the Hun. Thank God, it has proved otherwise—that the sturdy common-sense, the deep underlying patriotism, of Labour has asserted itself against those who would inveigle its steps into the paths of anarchy and ruin.

Meaning of the Miners' Challenge.

As everyone knows by now, last Thursday's Special Trade Union Congress voted down the Direct Actionists by majorities of nearly four to one—the effect of its resolutions being to leave the question of nationalisation to be determined by constitutional means. The outlines of the drama were clear and unmistakable. The Miners' challenge meant one thing, and one thing only—it meant that the Miners' Federation, under the revolutionary inspiration of Mr. Frank Hodges, aspired to usurp the function of Parliament, to substitute their sectional demands for the historic Will of the People—to govern in place of King, Lords and Commons. Such was the clear effect of the decision of the Miners' delegates. Probably few of them imagined that the first answer to this insolent challenge—a reply so complete and devastating as to be almost final—was to come, not from the Government, not from "the Capitalist Press," not from any syndicate of employers, but from the Trade Union Congress itself—from the "Parliament of Labour." The episode must have been profoundly disquieting to men like Hodges and Mann and Williams, whose secret hope it was to ride to positions of autocratic power and influence on the angry tide of a Bolshevist upheaval. But to the great mass of law-abiding citizens it is a matter for deep thankfulness and proud satisfaction, though the whole business gives cause for grave reflection For the moment, the threat of anarchy is past—the clouds have lifted, the sky is clear. But it is terrible to think how near we have been to the edge of disaster, and the new threat of the miners must not be disregarded.

The Daily Menace of Anarchy.

Just look fairly and squarely at the position. We will start with a statement that brooks no denial. After a cataclysm unparalleled in the world's history, the whole commercial and economic fabric of the nation—involving the comfort and well-being of every family in the land—rests balanced on a knife-edge of deadly peril. A malign touch—less than a blow—may disturb that precarious equipoise to our undoing. Yet we tolerate in our midst a menace scarcely less deadly, till British valour scotched it for ever, than was the base enmity of the Hun. This time the fell challenge has been averted—thanks, as I say, to the essential patriotism of Labour and to the courage and wisdom of men like Thomas and Clynes, for whom no words of commendation can be too high. But in the past we have seen wise leaders overborne, and it may happen again. At any moment the danger may recur. And, God knows, it is not a risk that can be lightly regarded. It is a question not simply of Profit and Loss—of the more or less of commercial advantage—but of death and damnation for all that is vital in our national life. It is no exaggeration to say that, having survived the unparalleled ordeal of war, we are living under the daily menace of Anarchy. The truth is, that—for all our boasted genius in politics, for all our skill in legislation—we have as yet failed to devise the most elementary safeguards against a peril which, once it breaks loose in our midst, may engulf the whole nation in abysmal ruin. As a nation, to-day we are dancing on the brink of a precipice at whose edge there is not the vestige of a protecting fence. You may tell me there is no help for it—that these are the inevitable risks of "democracy." I deny it utterly. Why, to use the word "democracy" in this connection is a grinning mockery! I am ready to thrash this matter out with anybody on the basis of fair argument.

The Block Vote—a Lie.

See what happened last week. The coal miners, by a "majority" of 178,000, decided in favour of Direct Action—so the newspapers stated, and so no doubt many honest folk believed. But it was a lie from the beginning. The "block vote" system, as it obtains under Trade Union rules, is the very embodiment of a lie. You see what happened was this: At the Miners' Conference each delegate was provided with a "card," showing the total membership of the "lodge" that had sent him up to the Conference. It is notorious that locally, especially on the English coalfields, the miners have been hopelessly divided on the question of Direct Action. Very well, then. Suppose that in a lodge of 1,000 members, 600 were for the general strike and 400 against it. Under the card-vote system this important division of opinion counts for nothing. When it comes to the ballot, the whole 1,000 votes go "into the hat" for a strike. Consequently, the figures of the voting at the Miners' Conference last Wednesday were no criterion whatever of the true feeling of the working miners. And, of course, it was the same on Thursday at the full Trade Union Congress. Although on the previous day, under the card system, only 524,000 votes had been cast in favour of a strike, the miners' vote on the final ballot amounted to nearly 900,000—a figure obtained by ignoring all differences of opinion in the coalfields and making one "card" do for the lot. Well, if this is "democracy," I have finished. To my mind it is the stupidest, rottenest and most untruthful system of voting that was ever invented, and I am simply appalled that any nation should permit its vital industries to be at the mercy of such blind and blundering folly. I know, of course, that it cuts both ways—that a strong minority in favour of Direct Action might, conceivably, be "snuffed-out" by a similar process—but that does not affect the principle. Think of it. Here we were, a week ago, within sight of a threat that spelt unthinkable disaster, yet with nothing better behind it in the way of "democratic" sanction than a "card" majority whose absurdity would have excited the derision of a kindergarten school. Tell me, if you like, that the block-vote system that jeopardised our lives on a Wednesday proved our salvation on the Thursday—that it is as potent to protect as to destroy. But what of that? What I want to know is—Are the fate and fortune of this great nation to be for ever dependent upon the luck of this crazy ballot? That is the plain question for sensible men and women to decide.

Part as Great as the Whole!

The Direct Action threat would be bad enough if the miners were solidly behind it; it would represent, as I have so often tried to show, an attempt by a part of the people to usurp the authority of the whole—to govern through the instrumentality of a sectional caucus instead of through the constitutional authority of Parliament. If any such threat had materialised, we should, as I have said, have been face to face with Revolution, and I need only add

TRUMPED.

—Block Vote, a Lie—Fate and Future of Empire.

EDITOR.

that we should have known how to fight it. But it was not a solid revolt of the miners that threatened us last week. No one can say how the toilers of the coal-pits were divided on this question. It was this grotesque folly of the card-vote system that made us hold our breath with apprehension till the fell danger was past. We are here at the very crux of the matter. It is not a question of the "rights of Labour," of "industrial freedom," or any other of the high-sounding shibboleths that do duty on Labour platforms. All this is flimsy camouflage. The block vote, as it exists to-day, is a sham and a deception—an embodied falsehood—and the question for the nation to determine is how much longer is a knot of dangerous revolutionaries to be allowed to play with this explosive toy. It will not do to answer that if the thing is a sham there can be no real harm in it—that only a strike that enlisted the whole-hearted sympathy of the rank-and-file could have the least hope of success. Folks who talk in this way can have no conception of what is implied in the term "Trade Union discipline." Oh, yes, your Hodges and Smillies and Manns and the rest of them can "roar as gently as any sucking-dove" on a public platform at election-time, when there are middle-class prejudices to be conciliated, women voters to be cajoled, and so on—but get them dealing with "blacklegs" in secret session, and no one would know them for the same men. Do you mean to tell me that if the vote of the Miners' Conference had stood, if the Trade Union Congress had countersigned the suicide warrant, if the Executive of the Miners' Federation had declared a strike, the rank-and-file—whatever the strength of the minority—would not have responded? You know as well as I do that, with trifling exceptions, they would have been "out" to the last man. And if that had happened, God knows what word of hope or comfort I could have offered my readers to-day.

Meaning of By-Elections.

Well, I say this tyranny must be broken, its sickening blend of farce and tragedy destroyed. Wherever I have gone in the recent by-elections I have found the great bulk of the electors, while full of sympathy with Labour's legitimate demands, eager to rally to the support of Parliament against the threatened tyranny of the Trade Union "bosses." That, in a measure, was the meaning of Mr. Palmer's victory in The Wrekin, and the same consideration is playing its part at Stockport—where we are making a bid for both seats, and hope soon to register an equally striking success. It is not a question of "fighting Labour"—the choice of our second candidate disposes of that allegation. Besides, I think I can claim that, even in the heat of keen electioneering, I have never—even by accident—misrepresented the so-called Labour Party. Certainly I have never consciously done so. This is my position: If ever the electors of this country should, under the guidance of reckless politicians, embark upon what I should regard as dangerous courses, I might deeply regret their decision, but I should, at any rate, feel that as a democrat, and indeed as a loyal citizen, I have no course open to me but to abide by the will of the majority. If a Labour Government is returned to power in this country during my lifetime, I shall be among its most obedient—though not perhaps its most docile—subjects. That pledge I give here and now. But one promise I will not give. Never, as long as by speech or writing I can influence my countrymen, will I undertake to keep silence in the face of a revolutionary intrigue masquerading in the guise of democratic agitation. I am grateful to the Trade Union Congress for their timely action in scotching the Miners' threat, and immensely relieved; as all thoughtful persons must be, that the immediate danger has passed; that the clouds are higher, and the sky clearer than for some time past; but—and this is of the essence of the matter—I am not content to rely upon this slender guarantee where the whole future of my country is at stake. In this stupid "card" game we may not always find it so easy to trump the revolutionary ace. In the name of British democracy, I demand adequate safeguards against those "active minorities" whose baneful operations have been the curse and ruin of once "Holy" Russia. There will be no security for our citizen rights, and no real independence for the workers themselves, until it is made illegal for a strike to be declared in any vital industry save after an individual and genuine ballot of the workers concerned. That is part of my remedy—*a secret ballot of the workers under proper superintendence.* It is my firm conviction that a law to this effect, supported as it undoubtedly would be by the overwhelming majority of the electors, would sound the death-knell of revolutionary agitation in this country. You see, I accept the "right to strike," so jealously contended for by the Labour enthusiasts; all I ask is that the use of this powerful weapon shall be subject to proper democratic safeguards. I want it to be, as it frequently *has* been in our industrial history, the instrument of freedom—not the bludgeon of a tyranny. I have sufficient faith in the British working man—with whom I venture to say I have been quite as closely associated as most of the so-called "leaders" of Labour—to believe that if left alone, freed from intimidation, protected from tyranny, he will never make an unfair or unpatriotic use of his industrial power—or, at any rate, that his lapses from the path of virtue will be so few as to constitute no real danger to the framework of society. Replace the "card-vote" by the secret ballot, and your Manns and Hodges will soon be looking for an honest job.

Strike or Arbitrate?

And now let me say a final word or two—a final word to the miners. I have no wish to pronounce upon the merits of their latest wages demand, but I will just say this—the nation will not tolerate a strike for nationalisation under any specious disguise. The situation created by the latest demand of the Miners' Federation calls for prompt handling by the Government. If the strike threat matures, they must pluck up their courage—or what there is left of it after Wrekin and Stockport—and insist that the issue involved shall be submitted to an individual ballot of the miners. Meanwhile, the men must be offered a reasonable alternative to the strike—viz., a Court of Arbitration, whose ultimate findings the Government should pledge itself in advance to accept. The straight issue for the ballot would then be—"Strike or Arbitrate?" And I think I know what the outcome would be. But whatever the result in this particular case, we should have established a new and hopeful principle in industrial affairs, and one containing, as I verily believe, the only hope of a permanent solution. Now that I am in some degree a Parliamentary "leader," it may be suggested that I should unlearn the habit of furnishing my rivals with ready-made policies, but that is not the view I take of my public duty.

Fate and Future of Empire.

Apart from this new demand of the miners, the industrial horizon is, as I say, clearer than for some time; for the present, the threat of "Direct Action" recedes and calmer counsels prevail. If we are wise, we shall use the respite thus gained to carry through the simple reform I have outlined. If Labour must have the "right to strike"—as in an imperfect state of society I suppose it must—it should be "by the ballot" and not "by the card." We must no longer be at the mercy of false Trade Union decisions, jerrymandered by revolutionaries, when the whole fate and future of our Empire is at stake. But this does not mean any denial of the legitimate demands of Labour. Whenever any section of the workers makes a just claim, and public opinion, because it is just, supports that claim, it must prevail. All values are changing, and the value of brawn and muscle must be acknowledged equally with that of brains and initiative. The vast mass of the working-class men—and women—of this country are reasonable, law-abiding citizens. They are proving by their votes, whenever they get an opportunity, that they will have no "truck" with revolution—that for them the red flag has no attraction. It is on the sound, sober sense of the working men—reinforced by the votes of the working women—that I rely to save this land of ours from evil courses, and to regain for us national happiness and Imperial prosperity.

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

SIR THOMAS BEECHAM.

Good mornin', sir . . . *Jest trim yore beard?* Yessir. This chair please. Fine weather fur March, aint it? . . . Wot d'y fancy fur the Lincoln, sir? . . . *Don't take no inf'rest in racin'?* 'Ard luck! Well, I s'pose nobody can't be keen on everythink. Country's in a nice state, aint it? Strikes in the *hair*. . . No, sir, I don't mean the 'air of yore 'ead, but in the *hair*—*you* know, the *hat*mosphere . . . I mean ter say, there's roomers o' strikes; an' wot with the 'igh prices, America's *hat*titude, an' the bloomin' Pussyfoot campaign, things al round is in a nice state . . . *You don't take no interest in politics?* May I awsk wot you *do* take an int'rest in, mister? I s'pose there's *somethink* wot you're keener on then anythink else . . . *Music?* Ah; an' very nice, too. I don't 'arf like it meself. I like to 'ear a pe-yanner organ in the City of an evenin', w'en the streets are quiet, playin' "A-be," "'Ow yer gwine ter keep 'em down on th' Farm," or somethink like thet. It sorter makes yer feel better'n wot chew reely are. Then there's thet noo instrument, the Kazoo. It don't 'arf make a noise! A clever bloke, 'im wot invented it. I'm glad there's somethink in common between us, sir. I like to feel there's a sorter sympathy between me an' me customers, an' I always tries to find out wot it is. Wot sorter music are you speshl'lly sweet on, mister? . . . . *Operer?* . . .

* * *

I aint never 'eard none, but I've read about it, an' all I kin say is as 'ow I'm surprised thet a gen'l'man like you should 'ave a likin' fur thet sorter thing . . . *W'y?* Awsk yerself the question! I've bin readin' about Convent Gawden in the papers lately, an' it's prop'ly got me wind up. Before the young 'eroes wot died fightin' the 'Un are cold in their graves, 'ere's thet blighter called Sir Thomas Beecham bungin' German music down our necks! Rotten, I call it. 'Ow decent English people can set an' lis'n to it, beats me. Wag-ner! I'd wag 'im! Let 'im wag 'is tail in Germany . . . I don't care if 'e *was* dead long before the wore. I say it aint decent to slam 'Un music in our ears w'ile the Germs are insultin' British officers in Berlin. As fur this Beecham bloke, somebody oughter get an injuction to stop 'im doin' of it.

* * *

If 'e *must* 'ave operer, aint there no English operers or French operers? . . . Oh, *music is international*, is it? P'r'aps it is, an' p'r'aps it aint. You don't call a tune like the "Marseylays" international, do yer? It's French. W'en a Frenchman 'ears it, it 'as a diff'rent effeck on 'im then wot it does on an Englishman, don't it? Then there's thet German noise, "Dutchland ober alls," or suthink. You wouldn't call thet international, would yer? . . Eh? *True lovers o' music 'ave no pelly feelin's of racial animosity?* Huh! I sh'd 'ave thort thet true lovers o' music would 'ave a little respeck for the feelin's o' wives, mothers an' sisters wot lorst them wot they loved, fightin' the Germans, an' wouldn't insult 'em by boomin' 'Un music before their tears was dry . . . *Do I know 'oo you are?* No, I don't. An' I don't think it matters. I'd say the same if you was Charlie Chaplin or the Pope o' Rome! . . . Oh, you're Sir Thomas Beecham 'imself, are you? Then let me tell you thet as long as you make Corvent Gawden 'idious with German music, I don't reckon it's worth a guinea a box, no, nor a tanner a stall—even with a ticket for the bar thrown in. 'Strewth! I'd rather go to a Pussyfoot lecture.

* * *

Fancy 'im goin' off 'uffy like thet! Funny, short-tempered blokes these musicians are, an' no errer . .

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(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

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JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

Accident after accident befalls Grand National horses—and with Clonree and Taffytus on the "doubtful" list, the race now looks less open than ever. From the very first we have expected Poethlyn to start one of the hottest favourites on record. Recent happenings on the training-grounds and race courses points to that opinion being borne out.

We should have preferred to have seen Mrs. Hugh Peel's champion given a gallop in public before Liverpool, but, on that point, must give his trainer credit for knowing best. It would have got the gelding on his mettle, though to have gone along as they will do in the Lingfield Park Chase might have bustled Poethlyn and got him unbalanced and caused him to make a fatal mistake. At Aintree the horses will have to take their obstacles more in hunting fashion than race over them as they do on the "Park" tracks.

A rare "lepper" and a great stayer is Gerald L, and there will be no horse stripped for the National that will be more "at home" to the conditions afoot if we get a lot of rain and the going is really heavy at Aintree. Furthermore, Givelt, his Lambourne trainer, tells us that he is very confident that, steering clear of accidents, his charge will stay the 4½ miles.

Sergeant Murphy is likely to run well in the race. Mr. H. Brown was not sufficiently impressed with Ballyboggan in the Leopardstown Steeplechase to decide to take the mount on the Irishman in the National, and to leave the handling of his own horse, The Bore, to some other jockey. Bluntly, he thinks The Bore has a good outside chance. He ascribes Ballyboggan's poor display to want of fitness A. Stubbs may now ride Ballyboggan at Liverpool, and as he runs in Ireland once more before the National, his two races in public straighten him up in condition a bit. Still, he and all Poethlyn's victims of last year will have to make more than ordinary improvement to turn the tables upon the winner of 1919.

From the time the weights first appeared we have not attempted to look beyond Bruff Bridge and Monteith for the winner of the Lincolnshire Handicap. We, however, admit having some little doubt as to the latter speeding enough from the slips. We are now informed from quite the fountain head that in this we are mistaken, as initial pace is in reality Monteith's *forte*, and that Cotterill has no horse in his stable capable of leading him four, let alone eight, furlongs.

It would be a very fitting victory were White Surrey to prove equal to winning the Grand Military Gold Cup, at Sandown Park this week, for Admiral of the Fleet Sir Hedworth Meux. All we can say is that the grey is regarded in a favourable light, and will be capably ridden by Captain G. Bennett.

Wilson ran well enough at Manchester to have a chance for whichever race he runs in at Sandown Park—possibly the Imperial Cup—the horse being so much better handicapped at Sandown Park than he was in the Liverpool Hurdle Race.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

LINGFIELD PARK—WEDNESDAY.
Herontye Hurdle—YELLOW BEDSTRAW.
Lingfield Park Chase—*SILVER RING.
Baldwin's Hurdle—GLENDAY.
Penshurst Hurdle—ROCKSPLIT.

SANDOWN PARK—THURSDAY.
Novitiate Chase—CRICKET.
Murland Chase—*MACMERRY.
Warren Hurdle—KABOODLES.

GRAND MILITARY—FRIDAY.
Coombe Springs Hurdle—BAYNARDS.
Gold Cup—*WHITE SURREY.
Past and Present Chase—DUNADRY.
Maiden Hurdle—WILSON.

GRAND MILITARY—SATURDAY.
Open Selling Hurdle—NEILGHERRY.
Imperial Cup—WILSON or HENRY B.
Grand Military Chase—CARRIGRUE.
United Services Chase—*ISIS.

BILLIARDS.

Never very robust, Smith has recently had a relapse calculated to affect his championship chances, which have been further menaced by the current form of Newman, who has allied consistency to his customary brilliancy in a manner which greatly enhances his prospects. Falkiner's wonderful win over Inman adds further spice to the Championship contest. What would have happened if Inman had ventured to defend his title?

Football Competition No. 25.

The following 35 competitors succeeded in forecasting ten winning teams, and therefore share the prize of £250:—

F. Bowman, 5, Hopwood Gardens, Tunbridge Wells; F. Botting, 8, Upton Road, Thornton Heath; A. Bradley, 154, Willingham Street, Grimsby; J. Clark, 15, Spencer Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne; H. Cooper, 28, Penwith Road, S.W.18; A. Deal, 31, Albany Mansions, S.W.11; W. Eaton, 19, Baskerville Road, S.W.18; R. Ewing, 5, Appen Road, Kinlochleven, Argyll; T. Fox, 32, Mill Street, Belper; C. Gowler, 54, York Road, Waltham Cross; J. Green, Junr., Ferndale, Glencoe Road, Bushey; T. Harrison, Junr., 20, St. Alban's Place, Blackburn; J. Heal, 16, East Street, N. Shields; W. Kitchingham, 21, Byrne Road, S.W.12; R. Johnstone, 45, Gloucester Place, Littlehampton; J. Jolley, The Dearne, Stanmore; E. Kampe, 53, Southwell Road, W. Croydon; F. Keylock, 31, Portland Place, Andover; R. Leese, 55, Granville Street, Woodville, Burton-on-Trent; D. Minion, 32, Church Road, Seacombe; G. Page, 31, Savoy Street, W. Gorton, Manchester; R. Page, High St., Earith; W. Percival, 20, Aire Street, South Bank, Yorks.; H. Phibben, 9, Prince Street, Bristol; J. Power, 3, Dean Grove, Bargate, Grimsby; W. Ross, 31, Howard Road, Walthamstow; W. Shakespeare, The Mill, Hambrook, near Bristol; A. Silvester, 54, Kerr Street, Glasgow; H. Smyth, 9, Prospecthill Street, Greenock; E. Stevenson, 133, Grasmere Street, Leicester; W. Steeples, 36, Lewis Street, Derby; D. Townsley, 15, Botham Street, Moss Side, Manchester; J. Tribick, 72, Scott Street, York; G. Warner, 212, St. George's Road, Coventry; W. Wright, 14, Vane Terrace, Grange Iron Works, near Durham.

Another prize of £250 must be won THIS WEEK. See page III. of cover.

FOOTBALL.

Could anything be more wonderful than the recovery of Huddersfield Town? Threatened with extinction or removal to Leeds a few months ago, they are now in the semi-final of the Cup. And what of that £4,000 gate for their fourth round tie after the poverty of the early months? The romance of football has known nothing more remarkable.

The draw for the semi-final, with Aston Villa and Chelsea clashing, has taken some of the lustre off the final tie, which will now be between First League and Second League, with the odds on the former instead—a fascinatingly open affair. We made the Villa favourites many months ago, and it really appears that the luck is with them.

LAWN TENNIS.

The entry of Holland for the Davis Cup is an agreeable surprise. Two of their players appeared at Queen's Club last Summer and showed some fair form, but we were then told that they had better players at home, including a youngster (we cannot recall his name), who is said to be remarkably brilliant.

Not until after the draw was made did Canada's challenge reach Australia. As was the case with South Africa last year, their cable was delayed, and they were omitted from the original draw because the rules insist upon this being made the day after the last day for entering. Apparently the rules need to be relaxed. The absence of France and Belgium from the draw seems inexplicable. It may be due either to official forgetfulness or the further holding up of cables.

GOLF.

There is so much screeching for what is termed the proper legislation of golf that, unless we are careful, this happy game, with which there is little wrong, might easily suffer from over-legislation to the detriment of the vast majority. If some of the experts who are crying for various reforms would come forward with concrete proposals instead of sweeping generalisations, they would be far more helpful to the St. Andrew's authorities.

ROWING.

Training up-to-date undoubtedly points to marked superiority of the Cambridge crew over Oxford. There is an ease and rhythm about the Light Blues that should be all in their favour under fair conditions, but the Oxonians possess a heftiness and physical strength that should serve them the better if they are called upon to rough it.

ATHLETICS.

Sutton Valence School can pride itself on having produced a wonderful young athlete in E. D. Mountain, whose half mile was the sensation of the Cambridge sports. Eighteen years of age and of slight physique, Mountain astonished everybody by his staying power and sustained pace whilst doing the half-mile in 1 min. 57⅗ secs., which fell short by less than 2 seconds of the record for the University sports.

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BOOTS.—4s. saved. Buy direct from our Northampton Factory, Gents', Ladies' and Children's Boots. Send for catalogue.—John Emmet Ltd. Dept. J, Northampton

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SACCHARINE TABLETS.—Prices: 500 2/6, 1,000 4/6, post free. Larger quantities at special prices.—D. Doyle (Dept. J.B.), 19, Drummond Crescent, Euston.

£300, £400, £500 a year for certificated Book-keepers. Postal Tuition 5/- monthly, including books; success guaranteed at two advanced exams. Prospectus tributes from prosperous past students, etc., free to all.—City Correspondence College (Dept. 9), 29, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1

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OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

A Matter of Money:—A somewhat belated letter from the East tells us that there was a parade for changing native money for demobilisation details. After many payments had been made, an intelligent soldier pointed out that the men were being diddled on the exchange—whereupon the parade was cancelled. On its resumption, the remainder of the men obtained their rights, but those who were previously bilked were given, "Right about; quick march," and went empty away. It has ever been so in our Army, as old soldiers can certify.

The Patients:—We know that it is the privilege of the soldier to grouse, and that the fellow undergoing the tedium of the hospital ward is naturally very prone to it. Our mail-bag daily brings us complaints from hospitals concerning food and treatment. We have been in contact with many of these institutions during the war, and have much sympathy with the inmates. May we plead for more sympathy on the part of the hospital staffs?

Rations:—We have been told by many officers from the front that roads in France have been paved with tins of bully beef. The complaints that we receive all over England suggest that we are working off a lot of the stuff upon the soldier. Regulations lay down the amount of "fresh meat" that he should receive per diem—and it is playing it low down on him when we dish up in his mess bully, bully stew, bully fricassée, and all the rest of it.

"Cork's Own Town":—Will the G.O.C. in Ireland look into the case of the men serving in Cork? Perhaps he will investigate the scale of rations. As we have already said, Ireland is the most food-bloated civilised country, and there should be no shortage.

"JACK."

From H.M.S. *Urchin*:—We have received complaints from the lower-deck, who have a catalogue of grouses. They tell us that the vessel is a "kind of hell." Perhaps the "big bug" who looks after the Queenstown station will investigate matters. We will give him one tip: When a Government boat is weather-bound and out of food, her crew should not be compelled to feed themselves out of their own pockets. Government, helped somewhat by the taxpayer, does—or should do—this job.

Salvage for You:—Money is ready for salvors of s.s. *General Havelock*. The crews of H.M.S. *Cricket*, H.M.T. *Danube II*, and *Marksman* (now *Boatman*) are also entitled—whilst money is due to the crew who salved the Greek caique *Panaghia Mirtidhiotissa* (what a name!)—the beneficiaries being the crews of H.M.T.B. 18 and H.M. Tug *Langton*.

Glad News:—Approval has been given for the extension to naval officers and ratings attached to the Caspian Sea flotilla of the special Colonial allowances of 4s. per day to officers and 2s. 6d. for ratings which were previously granted to the officers and ratings serving ashore in South Russia. Just the concession for which we have been barking for quite a time. Good!

Our Daily Thanks.

From W. E. P., Stoke Newington:—

"Just a few lines to acknowledge with thanks yours of the 2nd inst., and to inform you that I have received my remittance from the War Office. You may be sure I am delighted with the result so quickly achieved by your influence after months of correspondence on my part drawing a blank."

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

Government Economy:—Civilian clerks employed in service offices continue to complain that they are paid at the rate of hedgers and ditchers. We must look for a remedy.

Worn Out:—The Right Hon. Sir Frederick Milner has during the war served night and day helping Badgers fighting for support from the Civil Liabilities Department. He, like ourselves, has had thousands of cases set right. His self-imposed task has laid him up, and it will be well if our discharged and demobilised friends give him a rest. He has done the work of a dozen without pay and with scant thanks.

Tommy's Beer Stunt:—We learn that from the United Services Fund of about £7,000,000, filched from Tommy by the Navy and Army Canteens Board, £50,000 was given to the Church Army and £100,000 to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society—all the money being disposed of in double-quick time. What *is* to be done with the millions? It is well to talk about billiard tables, club houses, and swimming baths for the demobilised—but what about the thousands who have to find help from the pockets of our readers? Come, Lord Byng of Vimy!

Patriotism Penalised:—An apprentice at the Sentinel Wagon Works, Shewsbury, went out to kill Huns, and did his duty. On his demobilisation he asked the firm to reinstate him, and got this strange reply from the Supervisor:—"Dear W——, In reply to your letter of the 24th inst. I'm sorry, but I had no idea that you contemplated trying to get out of the bed you had made! My only idea was if possible in years to come, when you had served your time, there might be a chance of looking to see what we might do for you. It is quite out of the question now—even had we any vacancies, which we have not. Yours, faithfully, Aubrey J. Williams." Thus is patriotism rewarded!

"The Greatest of These—"

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Don't Cast a Stone:—A woman, with children, has a husband in jail. The poor wife with the youngsters was being practically starved.

A Bad Case:—The mother of eight children, whose husband is an unemployed ex-soldier, asked for help. The family was in dire distress, and naturally we put matters straight.

Very Sad:—A woman, whose ex-soldier husband is in an asylum, has three children. One, a little girl, had returned from a sanatorium and is dying. another is a cripple and is unable to work. The poor woman cannot undertake employment, as she is looking after her dying young daughter.

Disease and Debts:—The wife of an ex-soldier asked help to pay doctor's bills and other debts. The family was in great distress, and one little daughter was very ill.

One of Many!—An ex-soldier who cannot find employment, although he has looked for it, has had his temporary pension stopped, and his little family was therefore destitute.

Government "Kindness":—Discharged soldiers in certain circumstances are entitled to training for a trade. One such has been awaiting approval for five months, and is still without it. He has a wife and two delicate children, and meanwhile his little family was starving.

The Usual Duty.—During the week we arranged for the comfortable arrival of little new-comers, and saved others from pauper burial.

What a Load!—A soldier who fought for us is now discharged with a microsopical pension. His two-year-old child had died, and two of his other five youngsters are ailing. The poor fellow can get no employment.

THE SCOURGE OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

Once again the plight of a discharged soldier is the burden of our appeal—a poor fellow at Deptford who, since his demobilisation last May, has had only nine weeks' employment as a casual labourer at the docks, being otherwise dependent upon the Out-of-Work Donation of 35s. weekly. For himself he would not mind so much; but there are four little ones to be fed and clothed, and the wife is daily expecting another baby. As may be imagined, the little home—though spotlessly clean, and retaining through the magic of a woman's touch some semblance of comfort—bears sad evidence of the poverty that has overtaken a man whose first thought was for his country in the evil hour of her fate. The kiddies' boots are so worn that they cannot attend school; the bare necessities of life, to say nothing of its simple comforts, are lacking; even the sheets from the beds have been pawned for food. Nor are these sad circumstances at all surprising; for, although the neighbours have been kind and the local Church folk generous, the regular income of the family for the past ten months—apart from the casual earnings specified—has amounted, after payment of rent, to only 30s. a week. Mothers of families will know what can be done upon that slender sum—the hunger and want and misery involved in the struggle to feed and clothe five persons on some twelve or thirteen shillings weekly of pre-war money. Naturally, it has been impossible to make any sort of provision for the family event now pending; fortunately we heard of the case just in time to arrange for a grant from our "Greatest of These" Fund, as some assistance to the parents in their time of special need.

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors, and (b) suffering amongst the people generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? We gladly defray all expenses of administration.]

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WHAT HAVE *YOU* GIVEN?

R. W. T. (Cologne), 5s.; N.C.O.s and Men of 612 M.T. Coy., R.A.S.C., York (per C. D.), 14s.; "A Wellwisher" (Wembley), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. C. (Birmingham), 1s.; J. B. (Twickenham), 5s.; Pte. C. C., 4s.; "A Widow" (Bristol), 2s. 6d.; E. H. (Westmorland), 5s.; J. I. T., £1; Mrs. A. J. S. (Torrington), 19s. 9d.; P. B. (Barrow-in-Furness), 1s. 4d.; C. J. A. (E. Dulwich), 1s.; Mrs. O. W. (Hatcham), 5s.; M. N., 10s.; Anon., 10s.; "In Memory of Pilmsoll," 2s. 6d.; J. B. D., 2s. 6d.; F. H., 2s. 6d.; "In Loving Memory of Stan," 2s. 6d.; H. F. D. W. (Manor Park), 2s.; "One in Sympathy at Herne Bay," 5s.; E. and A. S. (Teddington), 2s. 6d.; J. G. W. (Wallsend-on-Tyne), 2s. 6d.; Members of Girls' Club, Messrs. Rudge-Whitworth Ltd. (per Mrs. S. M.), £7; C. S. B. (Leytonstone), 10s.; M. H. B. (Pembroke), 10s.; Mrs. A. B. (Brixton), 2s.; W. J. (Talara, Peru), 16s. 9d.; A. F. (Aston), 1s. 8d.; E. L. (s.s. *Rykopes*), £1 10s.; E. D. (Philadelphia), 4s. 6d.; W. E. P. (Stoke Newington), 2s. 6d.; Anon. (Sale), 5s.; Anon. (Southend), 1s.; J. C. T. (Swaziland), 1s.; J. W. L. (Plumstead), 1s.; R. T. (Birkenhead), 5s.; H. L. (Charlton), 4s.; B. S. (Fareham), 4s.; H. E. S. (Newport Pagnell), 1s.; "Tim," 12s. 6d.; A. L. (Hull), 1s.; S. L. (Smethwick), 1s.; G. T. J. (Aldershot), 2s.; J. S., 2s. 6d.; T. A. V. (Tooting), 1s.; "Kat's Eye," 1s.; "Saunders Road" (Blackburn), 5s. 6d.; L. B. (Peterboro'), 2s. 6d.; W. H. (Galashiels), 7s. 6d.; H. K. B. (Victoria), 1s.; Mrs. L. M. M. (Wivenhoe), 2s.; A. L. (Markinch), 5s.; Mrs. K. M. (Kentish Town), 6d.; J. H. (Duns), 6d.; C. D., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. E. T. (Gorleston-on-Sea), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. O'S. (Gillingham), 6d.; "S. Ealing Reader," 2s.; "Bensham" (Gateshead), 1s.

Mr. G. M. Trollope, winner of the First Prize in our "Bullets" Competition, No. 365, has kindly sent us £5 for the above fund.

No observant reader will have failed to notice that our list of subscriptions is falling off, every week practically showing a decline. And the need is still as great as ever—even more so, as the Out-of-Work Donation to ex-Service men is being cut off, whilst civilian sufferers are now within the scope of the Fund. "A little help is worth a deal of pity."

A £6.6 Suit for £3.3

GOVERNMENT SUITS.

OF course, you have read in the Press about the recent record deal in Government suits—580,000 suits — costing over £1,500,000 — and weighing nearly 1,200 tons.

Their value is wonderful. Every yard of material used has been passed as being up to the very high standard set by the British Government; every suit has been separately inspected and passed by Government clothing experts. Their hard-wearing qualities are positively unrivalled.

As for their price, £3 3s. 0d. only—in these costly days it is simply amazing. Every man should make it his business to get one or more at once. Like opportunity will never occur again.

But go and inspect them for yourself. If your own usual clothier has not got them, send his name and address with your own height and chest measurement, but send no money. You will be supplied speedily either by him or through a retail mail-order house.

But be prompt. Time is very precious when rare bargains are going.

G. S. Dept. I.
GEORGE WILLIAMS & CO., LTD.
(Wholesale only),
33-37, Alfred Place, Tottenham Court Rd.,
LONDON :: :: :: :: W.C.1.

Saved

The price of these suits has been limited by the Government to £3 3s. 0d. each, to help to reduce the cost of living.

S. JAMES 4.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By Our City Editor.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Exchequer Bond Failure.

As I recently ventured to predict, the cash subscriptions to the 5½ per cent. Exchequer Bonds are not nearly sufficient to meet the amount falling due for repayment this year, and only about half of which was converted into the new issue. Nearly £100,000,000 was wanted and no more than £60,000,000 has been obtained. The Chancellor stated that the result greatly exceeded the expectations of himself and his financial advisers. If that is really the case they must have pitched their hopes very low indeed, and it was scarcely worth while to keep the lists open six weeks to bring forth such a ridiculous mouse. Apart from other unpalatable considerations, the failure has distinctly lowered the value of British credit, as may be seen in the recent heavy fall in Government securities.

Corporation Borrowing.

Many Corporations have for a long time been watching rather enviously the flood of new issues, for they are mostly in need of funds for one purpose or another, apart from housing schemes. They have been "held up" since the beginning of the war, and they have jibbed at the high rate of interest they would have to pay. Now that Sheffield has taken the plunge by offering a 6 per cent. stock others are expected to follow suit, and it is believed that Birmingham, Bradford, Hull, Liverpool and Manchester will appear in the market shortly. The rate of interest is practically stereotyped at 6 per cent.; nothing less would be looked at under present conditions and more would offend their dignity. Dear money, however, is a potent incentive to economy, and I do not anticipate reckless borrowing.

Prudential Progress.

The Prudential Assurance Company is a national institution in the literal sense of the word. It is scarcely conceivable that it has 23,100,000 policies in force in the Industrial branch—one for every two men, women and children in the kingdom. Nothing approaching this record has ever previously been accomplished, and the organisation which has attained it must be as nearly perfect as human ingenuity and enterprise can make it. Improved methods are constantly being elaborated, and it is hoped to reduce the unavoidably high expense ratio in the Industrial branch by 10 per cent. as the result of the block system of collecting weekly premiums. The total assets now reach the enormous sum of £117,740,000.

EVILS OF NATIONALISATION.

"Direct action" as a means of "compelling" the Government to nationalise the mines and railways was very fortunately smothered by the vote of the Trade Union Congress summoned to consider the question. Of course, what the Welsh miners mean by nationalisation and what the word used to be taken to signify are two very different things; but, even so, it is rather amazing that a large body of hard-headed men should pin their faith to this panacea for their supposed grievances in face of the experiences of the past few years. The extremists, whose sole object is to "abolish the capitalists," might profitably consider the record of the Bolshevik Government in Russia as a protector of the working man's interests, and the more moderate section who sincerely believe that the Government can run such businesses as railways and mines to the greater advantage of the whole community than private proprietors would do well to study the history of, say, the telephones and every Departmental Control that has been instituted since the beginning of the war. The present congestion at the docks and on the railways, which is an important factor in maintaining high prices, is very largely, if not entirely, due to official interference in the routine of business which cannot be regulated by inexperienced clerks in Whitehall, however competent and conscientious. The story told the other day of a ship being loaded and unloaded nine times on conflicting orders from different Controllers is not an isolated case of the difficulties with which the business community have had to contend. However, there is some consolation in knowing that in this respect we have been no worse off than our neighbours. It is interesting, certainly, to learn that the Washington Government seems to have made a pretty hash of running the railways when it took over control on entering the war. According to reports which have appeared in responsible American journals, the lines—now in process of being handed back to their proprietors—are in a deplorable condition, both as regards permanent way and rolling stock, as the result of three years' Government management. Hundreds of millions of dollars will have to be spent to restore them to a proper state of efficiency. To a considerable extent, no doubt, this was unavoidable, but he would have to be a very bold (or foolish) person who started a nationalisation campaign in the States at present. *Verb. sap.*

German "Threes".

How are the mighty fallen! Before the war Imperial Threes were 74, or just about the same as our 2½ per cent. Consols. Recently a considerable business has been done in them round 6¼, ex coupons for 5½ years' interest—or 16½ per cent. in all. As the coupons in question cannot have been paid in the regular way, there are people who would like to know what has become of them. But if you want a stake in the German Republic at 93 per cent. discount, you must not ask rude questions.

Rubber at 45s. per lb.

I notice in the Board of Trade returns that in the past two months we have exported 7,810 centals (100 lbs.) of rubber to Germany. As the mark is now valued at about 360 to the sovereign or 18 to the shilling, this means that at the present rate of exchange the material would cost the equivalent of 45s. per lb., or £1,757,000 for the little lot mentioned. I have heard of very fancy prices being obtained for rubber that escaped the vigilance of the British Navy, but never like this. What would the cost of tyres be on this basis?

Rubber Shareholders Revolt.

At the meetings of both the Johore Rubber Lands and the Segamat Rubber Estates strong opposition developed against the proposal to sell the properties to a purchaser who was ultimately admitted to be the Dunlop Company. On a show of hands the resolutions were defeated at both meetings, but in these cases it is usually the malcontents who turn up in force, and the directors probably have sufficient proxies to carry the day. The prices offered were substantially higher than the market valuation, but evidently many of the shareholders did not consider a bird in the hand worth two in the bush.

Mexican Rumours.

Immediately after Senor Nieto, the Mexican financial envoy, departed to report on the result of his European mission, it was rumoured that he had arranged for the Mexican Railway (Vera Cruz) to be handed back to the proprietors. Unfortunately the Company knew nothing about it, and the buyers who rushed in on the "news" were badly caught. All the same, conditions in the country certainly seem to be improving, and if the Government can maintain any decent semblance of order the process of recuperation is likely to be rapid. But it may be well not to be over sanguine until there are more tangible signs of reformation.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

A. R. M. (Punjab). — Banks here will take deposits in joint names, but interest varies with the Bank rate. At present it is 4 per cent. Chartered of India, Hong Kong, and Shanghai or Mercantile of India would probably suit your purpose. *Darjeeling Himalayan Railway* Preference shares are not quoted here. Hold unless you see something better to put your money into.——Lancer (Charlton).—*S. Paulo and Mines Debs.:* No doubt your interests are being watched. There would be no harm, however, in writing to the receiver, Mr. C. C. Baker, 1, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall St., E.C. *Montenegro Bond:* It is impossible to say; you can only wait and hope. *Mexico Tramways:* Hold for the present, as conditions are improving. *London and Mexico Concessions:* I have no records and doubt whether the shares have now any value, but they may bob up again.—J. K. (Barton-on-Humber).—*Strathisla Rubber* shares are about 5s. and are fairly hopeful. *City Arcades:* Write to the Secretary, 56, Newhall St., Birmingham. The other companies have disappeared and the shares are worthless.——S. J. H. (York).—*Bell Lines:* The shares are not quoted here and I do not know the present value. Better apply to the Secretary.——Mrs. M. H. (Glasgow).—*Simmer Deep:* Do not touch these shares. They are very speculative and quite unsuitable for a person with small capital.——W. J. (Jermyn St.).—*Bolckow Vaughan, etc.:* I have not heard of any such combination as you suggest, but fresh amalgamations are of almost daily occurrence and the companies mentioned have already a certain amount of mutual interest.——J.W.C. (Plumstead).—*Home and Colonial Steam Fishing:* It is a fair industrial speculation. Present high prices, however, will not last indefinitely.——B. E. B. (Dublin).—*Foundation Share Exchange:* Once more, have nothing whatever to do with it.——H. V. T. (Regents Park). *Trinidad Leaseholds* are all right for a speculative investment, but I do not recommend Anglo-United.——A. R. (Yarmouth).—*African Farms:* I think you should hold for the present. There is no further liability if the shares are fully paid, but I do not advise you to put up any more money on a reconstruction scheme.——J. R. (Greenock).—*Lloyd's Bank:* Your questions would take a page to answer fully. You are perfectly safe to leave your interests to the bank managers, and if you are foolish enough not to take up your proportion of the new shares—well!!——Cable (Tenby).—*Eastern Telegraph, etc.:* Don't worry for a moment. They are perfectly able to look after themselves. No wireless can hurt them in your lifetime.——Shares (St. Helens).—*Fellows Magneto and Scottish American Oil* are good industrial investments.——T. N. (Glasgow).—*Chinese 5 per cent. and B. Ayres Gt. Southern* are good to hold.

JOHN BULL, LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given that the Transfer Books of the Company will be closed for the purpose of the Preparation of Dividend Warrants from the 23rd March to the 6th April, both dates inclusive.

By order of the Board.

COLES L. HARRIS, Secretary.

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY
LIMITED.
Chief Office: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON, E.C.1.

Summary of the Report presented at the Seventy-First Annual Meeting, held on March 4th, 1920.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of policies issued during the year was **138,037**, assuring the sum of **£22,319,642**, and producing a new annual premium income of **£1,639,762**. The premiums received were **£7,627,547**, being an increase of **£856,708**, over the year 1918.

The claims of the year amounted to **£5,267,396**, of which **£175,582** was in respect of War Claims. The number of deaths was **12,629**. The number of endowment assurances matured was **33,367**, the annual premium income of which was **£174,225**.

The number of policies, including annuities, in force at the end of the year was **1,043,309**.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The premiums received during the year were **£11,155,874**, being an increase of **£1,419,471**.

The claims of the year amounted to **£3,997,138**, of which **321,178** was in respect of **19,562** War Claims. The total number of claims and surrenders, including **36,260** endowment assurances matured, was **405,709**.

The number of free policies granted during the year to those policyholders of five years' standing and upwards who desired to discontinue their payments was **72,293**, the number in force being **2,036,395**. The number of free policies which became claims was **50,209**.

The total number of policies in force in this Branch at the end of the year was **23,097,157**: their average duration exceeds fourteen years.

The War Claims of the year, in both Branches, number **21,861**, the amount to **£497,060**. The total paid up to the present on this account since the outbreak of War exceeds **£5,300,000**, in respect of **249,000** claims.

GENERAL BRANCH.—In March 1919 the Company commenced to transact Fire, Accident and other Classes of Insurance business. The premiums received during the year, after deducting reinsurances, amounted to **£84,883**. In addition, Sinking Fund policies have been issued insuring a capital sum of **£305,625** and producing an annual income of **£7,470**.

Policies have been issued covering loss from Fire, Accident, Employers' Liability, Burglary, Plate Glass, Motor, Third Party, Lift and other risks. The public are evincing special interest at the present time in the "Hearth and Home" policy and the "Combined Fire and Burglary" policy.

The assets of the Company, in all branches, as shown in the balance sheet, after writing down book values by **£2,543,000** are **£117,739,336**, which after deduction of the balance of **£3,500,000** owing in respect of the advance from our Bankers for purchase of War Loan shows an increase of **£5,112,474** over 1918.

In the Ordinary Branch the surplus shown is **£1,803,709**, including the sum of **£149,670** brought forward from last year and **£500,000** transferred from the Contingency Fund. Out of this surplus the Directors have added **£593,000** to the Investments Reserve Fund, which after writing down book values by **£1,443,000**, stands as at 31st December, 1919, at **£1,800,000**, and **£152,003** has been carried forward.

The Directors are pleased to be able to announce that a bonus of **£1 8s.** per cent. on the original sums assured will be allocated to participating policies in the Ordinary Branch which were in force on the 31st December, 1919.

During the War, owing to the pressure on the Staff and the need for conserving paper supplies, no bonus certificates could be distributed. This year a certificate will be sent to every participating policyholder showing the Bonus now declared and the total bonuses added to their policies and calling attention to the fact that bonuses of **£1** per cent. were distributed in respect of each of the years 1915, 1916 and 1917, and a bonus of **£1 8s.** per cent. in respect of 1918.

In the Industrial Branch the surplus shown is **£867,489**, including the sum of **£70,685** brought forward from last year. Out of this surplus the Directors have added **£400,000** to the Investments Reserve Fund, which, after writing down book values by **£1,100,000** stands as at 31st December, 1919, at **£1,100,000**. **£100,000** has been carried to the Common Contingency Fund, and **£72,394** has been carried forward.

The provisions of the Courts (Emergency Powers) Act are still in force and the reserve of **£100,000** is retained to meet losses from this cause to which the Company is still exposed.

The total surplus of the two branches, as shown by the valuation, is **£2,671,198**. Of this amount **£593,000** has been added to the Investments Reserve Fund of the Ordinary Branch, **£400,000** has been added to the Investments Reserve Fund of the Industrial Branch, and **£100,000** to the Common Contingency Fund; **£953,801** will be allocated to participating policies in the Ordinary Branch and **£400,000** to the holders of fully paid shares in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company, leaving **£224,397** to be carried forward, namely **£152,003** in the Ordinary Branch and **£72,394** in the Industrial Branch.

In the General Branch, the new classes of business have not been in operation for a full year, the existing contracts having on the average about eight months to run. The profit earning capacity of the business therefore has not yet been ascertainable and it has been considered advisable to retain 55 per cent. of the premiums paid for the unexpired risks, and the whole of the balance of the fund as an additional reserve.

The aftermath of the Great War still affects the Company adversely, and during the year a sum of **£497,060** was paid in War Claims. In addition, there has been further heavy depreciation in the values of securities, and the Company has had to carry no less than **993,000** to the Investments Reserve Fund, and **£100,000** to the Common Contingency Fund. There is thus a total of **£5,543,000** available to meet depreciation or for any other purpose. Of this amount **£2,543,000** has been applied to writing down the values of securities, **£100,000** has been added to the Common Contingency Fund and the balance of **£2,900,000** remains as Investments Reserve Funds. The Securities which have been written down are those which seem to offer little prospect of recovery to prices equivalent to our book values.

The four Prudential Approved Societies have during the year paid to their members benefits amounting to approximately **£1,687,000**, making a total of over **£10,224,000** paid since National Insurance was introduced. The number of persons admitted to membership of the Societies during the year was **298,442**, of whom **127,344** were men and **171,098** women.

During the year no fewer than **6,007** members of the Staff have resumed duty on demobilization after Active Naval and Military Service. The Directors once again express their high appreciation of the National Service rendered by the Staff while with the Colours, and cordially welcome them on their return.

To those members of the Staff, men and women, who have carried on the business of the Company under very difficult conditions, the Directors again tender their hearty thanks.

Combined Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Ltd., being the Summary of all Branches on the 31st December, 1919.

LIABILITIES.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Shareholders' capital.		
Nominal capital:—		
1,000,000 shares of £1 each	£1,000,000	
1,000,000 "B" shares of £1 each ...	1,000,000	
	£2,000,000	
Issued capital:—		
1,000,000 shares of £1 each, fully paid ...	£1,000,000	
1,000,000 "B" shares of £1 each, 2s. paid ...	100,000	
		1,100,000 0 0
Life assurance fund Ordinary Branch		55,278,017 3 8
Life assurance fund Industrial Branch		33,624,403 17 5
Insurance fund General Branch		9,758 7 10
Investments reserve fund		2,900,000 0 0
Common contingency fund...		100,000 0 0
Courts (Emergency Powers) Act reserve		100,000 0 0
Advance by Bankers secured on £5,250,000 3 per cent. War Loan 1929-1947 and £7,250,000 4 per cent. Victory Bonds		3,500,000 0 0
Claims intimated and in course of payment		403,930 12 0
Annuities due and unpaid		5,093 6 7
Reserve for income tax—General Branch...		1,158 18 10
Amount due for reinsurances		6,576 13 5
Balance standing to credit of profit and loss account ...		624,397 0 0
		£117,739,335 19 9

ASSETS.

Mortgages on property within the United Kingdom ...		8,089,056 3 7
Mortgages on property out of the United Kingdom ...		166,446 9 3
Loans on parochial and other public rates		10,742,199 13 11
Loans on Life interests		1,028,987 0 11
Loans on Reversions		44,236 5 11
Loans on stocks and shares		293,850 14 11
Loans on Company's policies within their surrender values		2,191,226 6 11
Carried forward		£22,556,002 15 5

ASSETS—continued.

Brought forward		22,556,002 15 5
Loans on Personal security		*Nil.*
Loans to Educational institutions secured on income ...		34,208 17 3
Investments:—		
Deposit with the High Court (£17,122 14s.0d. 5% War Loan, 1929-1947 and £10,000 5% National War Bonds, 1928)		36,062 4 1
British Government securities		44,688,263 0 4
Bank of England stock		272,412 0 4
Municipal and county securities, United Kingdom ...		1,840,353 18 10
Indian and Colonial Government securities		4,838,817 18 10
Colonial provincial securities		1,120,531 15 11
Indian and Colonial municipal securities		3,291,175 3 8
Foreign Government securities		5,784,194 11 9
Foreign provincial securities		271,201 3 8
Foreign municipal securities		2,459,774 11 2
Railway and other debentures and debenture stocks and gold and sterling bonds—Home and Foreign...		11,474,245 6 7
Railway and other preference and guaranteed stocks and shares		2,801,650 14 1
Railway and other ordinary stocks and shares ...		2,730,901 8 8
Rent charges		420,105 17 1
Freehold ground rents and Scotch feu duties		4,782,404 1 9
Leasehold ground rents		8,762 1 3
House property		4,709,923 9 7
Life interests		34,626 14 6
Reversions		966,214 6 3
Agents' balances		12,916 3 0
Outstanding premiums		931,911 11 0
Outstanding interest and rents		257,583 9 1
Interest, dividends and rents accrued but not payable ...		579,100 9 7
Bills receivable		*Nil.*
Cash—On deposit...		20,000 0 0
In hand and on current accounts		835,842 6 1
		£117,739,335 19 9

The values of Stock Exchange securities are determined, under the Articles of Association of the Company, by the Directors. Due allowance has been made for accrued interest, and the book value of these securities as set forth in the Balance Sheet stands considerably below cost price. A careful investigation as to the actual saleable value on 31st December, 1919, compared with the book value, shows that the Investments reserve funds are much more than sufficient to meet any depreciation of the permanent securities. Terminable securities have been valued on a basis which, with Sinking Funds already established, provides for the equalisation of the book values and the redemption values at the date of maturity.

We certify that in our belief the Assets set forth in the Balance Sheet (having regard to the standards indicated) are in the aggregate fully of the value stated therein less the Investments reserve funds taken into account, and make ample provision for all the liabilities of the Company. No part of any fund has been applied directly or indirectly for any purpose other than the class of business to which it is applicable.

A. C. THOMPSON, *General Manager.*
J. BURN, *Actuary.*
C. E. MAY, *Secretary.*
THOMAS C. DEWEY, *Chairman.*
W. J. LANCASTER,
J. IRVINE BOSWELL, } *Directors.*

We report that, with the assistance of the Chartered Accountants as stated below, we have examined the foregoing accounts and have obtained all the information and explanations that we have required, and in our opinion such accounts are correct and the foregoing Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Company. No part of any fund has been applied directly or indirectly for any purpose other than the class of business to which it is applicable.

PHILIP SECRETAN
W. H. NICHOLLS, } *Auditors.*

We have examined the Cash transactions (receipts and payments) affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1919, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, etc., representing the Assets and investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1919.

17th February, 1920.

DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS & Co., *Chartered Accountants.*

For Sundays: Morning, the NATIONAL NEWS; evening, the SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C. 2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

R. P. (Welshpool).—"Now Parliament has got a Palmer, We'll hope the air is somewhat calmer." And when it's also got a Kindell, 'Twill run as smooth as a well-oiled spindle.

E. W. (Bristol).—We agree with you that the ex-Service man is no Bolshy.

"DRAPER" (Wallington).—"Are you aware that a draper has to sell 12 reels to get 3d.? If the drapery trade would boycott Coats it would be better for all." Afraid the drapery trade won't cotton on to your suggestion.

E. P. O. (Colorado).—"Josephus Daniels and the crowd who spent 800,000,000 dollars on an aviation service without completing a single aeroplane." Can that be true of business-like U.S.A.? You surprise us, really!

"CHESNOCK" (Scotland). — "Kindly state whether you are endeavouring to get your editorial staff returned to Parliament?" No, we must leave some of 'em at home.

"FRENCHMAN" (Brompton).—"Since we are friends, I hope to see more Britishers than ever coming to my country." Merci!

A. C. S. (E. Dulwich).—"Tell the Government that there will be, at a given hour in a few weeks' time, a 'down tools' all over England, the cause being one can't get a glass of ale." We will freeze the Prime Minister's marrow as asked, but that "given hour" is mysterious. Anything to do with summer-time?

"AN ENGLISH YORKSHIREWOMAN" (Leeds).—"They did fill their pockets before they filled their cartridge belts." Now, we wonder to whom that can refer!

W. D. C. (Clapham Park).—A destitute and crippled Mons hero has to walk 100 miles on one foot, because his pension is not yet forthcoming, whereas the L.C.C. Park Superintendent, a German, retires on an allowance of £67 a year. We say nothing against the latter, but the discrepancy is abominable.

T. C. (Shepherd's Bush).—The angry Frenchman no longer screams "If I knew ze Inglees for ze box, I would blow your nose, by dam, I am"—he *does* it. But "Smiler" Hales is on the trail.

"SCOUT LEADER" (Acton).—We wish all readers would contribute 2d. a week to our charitable fund, but we cannot make it obligatory. Generosity must not be forced.

H. G.—"We all must have cotton; We won't say it's rotten, It always was good but it goes; We complain at the charge, We find it two large, But must have it for making our clothes." Your verse is full of truth.

F. B. (Brighton).—Germany proposes to tax all foreigners temporarily visiting that delightful land. If it is done, all "foreigners" should copy that scheme of hospitality.

A. G. S. (London, Ont.).—Don't worry, old sport. Prohibition has a long way to go before it captures the Old Country. Yankeeland will be wet again before we're dry.

W. C. (Woking).—We all know by now that the Profiteering Tribunals were an utter farce. The only thing to do is to ginger up the Government by returning Independent Anti-Waste candidates at all the by-elections.

"EX-SERGT.-MAJ." (Wincobank).—All the world knows that the treatment of ex-Service men at the hands of certain trade unions has, to put it mildly, been shabby to a degree.

P. K. (Shipley).—"I do not think you see both sides of the hedge." That is because we don't sit on the fence.

"A CITIZEN" (Catford).—"Must say I endorse everyone of your remarks." If it were not for our *embonpoint* we would too.

M. H. M. (McKay, B.C.).—"I read your paper all the time." We shall not feel hurt if you take an hour off now and then for meals, dear.—Like you, we wish our first woman M.P. had been an Englishwoman, and not an AmericanP ussyfootette.

D. T. (Strathyre) claims that the minimum wage of West Perthshire roadmen "should be at least 50s. a week." That doesn't seem a lot too much in these days.

"EX-PRIVATE" (London).—"Lancashire farmers in Essex (who were exempted from military service) have, owing to war prosperity, bought their own farms and now wear military rainproof trench-coats." We suppose they are digging themselves in.

H. M. B. (Finchley).—"The London mounted police of the future will ride in motor cars." For wheel or woe?

R. D. H. (Ipswich).—"There are some hogs about, don't you think?" And other animals in the profiteering ark too numerous to mention.

"YOURS RESPECTFULLY" (Cork).—"If Irish police pensions are to be increased let the extra money be given to the wives." That's a new notion; what do the hubbies say?

P. McG. AND J. P. (Glasgow).—"A speaker at the I.L.P. meeting last Sunday said nobody read JOHN BULL." It was a slight error, being millions out.

J. W. H. (Fulham).—"At the King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, I left for a patient a letter, books, and six eggs. He got the letter and books but no eggs." But perhaps his case was one in which eggs are injudicious as an article of diet.

"NEMO."—You want the address of "the doctor who performs operations on ugly deformed noses." Your own doctor will tell you what you're to do if you have bent your nose through sticking it into other people's business or otherwise.

W. E. W. (Ivybridge).—"I cut out your par. about increased activity among Mormons, and posted it up in a shop window. Advise me the best means of countering Conchies and Germans who are already showing their heads." That shop window is a good notion to start with.

"CONSTANT READER."—"I am a gentleman's servant's wife and have to manage on £1 6s. a week and rooms to keep husband and two children." The gentleman ought to act in a more gentlemanly way.

A. F. S. (Durban).—For any passenger steamship line to charge 9d. for a "small Guinness" and the same for a "drop" of whisky, is atrocious profiteering, seeing that they obtain their supplies duty free.

E. K. (Ramsgate).—Before making a grant, the Ramsgate National Relief Fund Committee appear to want to know everything about an applicant, with the exception of his or her birthmarks. They have reason to be careful, but have no right to be rude.

"NO DUDS" (Brierley Hill, Staffs).—The attempted "Pussyfoot" meeting at Brierley Hill must have been highly diverting, more especially when the Yankee speaker was reminded by the "voice" that "we fought for him four years before he came."

"A BERMONDSEY NEWSAGENT."—"Do you think a shopkeeper can live and pay his way?" We know of several who have lately set up Ford cars.

J. B. W. (Chippenham).—The clergyman "leaving home" who advertises so many articles for sale in the *Bazaar*, is a long time leaving, and appears to have possessed more "shooting irons" of various sorts than a cleric is usually provided with.

R. A. E. (Cardiff).—If you have any more of those "spirit visitations," take our advice and see a doctor

J. A. (Bethnal Green).—We have said our say to the Secretary of the Portman Dance Club, and cannot spare more space for the subject. But we are glad our attitude meets with the approval of your Union.

F. W. R. (Weymouth).—"Do you think it likely that the Britannic Assurance Co. will fall in with the Pearl as regards giving agents £3 weekly?" If they do not, we shall fall out with them. £3 seems now to be the sum demanded.

A. R. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—"The earth being approximately 201,000,000 square miles in area, a certain fixed amount of produce only can be obtained from it at a maximum yield." We accept your figures, as we haven't time to run around and check them; but surely if any science is in its infancy, it is Agriculture.

"NOTTS" (Derby).—"Does it not distinctly say in the Bible that the deceased husband's brother is to be given preference to a stranger?" It does; see Deut. xxv., 5-9.

"SPECIAL" (Hastings) informs us that the local Specials have been rewarded by a supper which they had to pay for themselves, and by being allowed to keep their badges, which they also bought with their own money. The reward of merit.

PIERCE DE V.C. (Ireland).—"Damn your concessions, England; we want the Irish race." We know the winner.

E. G. S. (Morpeth).—Post Office people are slow in restoring pre-war letter service. A strong petition, signed by nearly every householder in the district, might possibly shift them. We know of nothing else likely, bar dynamite.

W. H. W.—"Look out for German sailors and bombs. I have heard they say they will sink every ship taken from them. Don't mention where this comes from." Not a word. Especially as you do not tell us.

MRS. H. (Tenby).—When old pensions are raised, and we hope it will not be long now, superannuated dockyard workers must come into the scheme.

R. C. (Westbourne Grove).—"I beg to draw your attention to the tax on tobacco." You needn't; our entire staff is puffing and blowing about it. Even the lady-typist thinks more than she says.

H. E. H. (Bow Lane, E.C.).—There never were stronger reason than at present for calling this Dear Old England.

J. E. O. (London, W.).—Our interest in Horrex's Hotel has been keen and continuous from the first. As an example of muddle and ineptitude it is almost unsurpassed.

L. S. (Ealing).—"One must give even Little Willy his due." Hope he may get it.

"ECONOMIST" (Chichester).—You will probably find it safer to send your Football Coupons under sealed cover, with a 1½d. stamp. The P.O. inform us that when forwarded open for ½d. they are liable to be lost.

M. S. (Okehampton).—"Lately I have been struck by your writing." Our style *is* considered somewhat percussive.

R. M. E. P. (Edinburgh).—The pay in Edinburgh for knitting a 22-inch jumper is 5s. 6d. Who would jump to the job at that price?

J. N. A. (Richmond).—If every man, woman and child in the Kingdom possessed a bicycle and paid 2s. 6d. tax on it, it would produce only about £6,000,000. But every man, woman and child *hasn't* a "bike."

PTE. CECIL R. NEVIN, 28252, A Compy., 1st Batt. K.S.L.I., reported to have died 10th Oct., 1918, at No. 50 Casualty Clearing Station, France. Any comrade who was present when the above was wounded, or at his death or burial, will oblige by communicating with Mrs. A. L. Nevin, 40, Sleepers Hill, Stanley Park, Liverpool.

C. D. (Risca, Mon.).—One swallow does not make a summer, neither does one conscientious Labour Exchange manager make a satisfactory Labour Minstry.

A. S. C. (Edinburgh).—The Calton Ward Scottish Temperance (1920) Act Committee are demonstrably wrong. Prohibition means more, not less, crime, as the United States has proved.

"SCOTT."—Many thanks for your generous gift of 10s. for the poor old couple of Rotherhithe.

A. E. G. (Midhurst).—We must inquire into that store of oats and oil-cake which you say is over-run with rats and otherwise spoiling.

R.M.S. *Indarra* (Columbo).—Over 200 3rd-class passengers write us to express their appreciation of the constant efforts of Captain Newberry and his officers to make their voyage "as comfortable and enjoyable as possible." Glad to hear it.

"MERE" (Clerkenwell).—"The best thing to do with the old men is to bury them off." What! Too old at 50? Bless you, we know folk young at 70.

W. A. H. (Birmingham).—£3 1s. per week (including War Bonus) is disgraceful pay for a trained hand employed in the Government Telephone Factory, Birmingham, but it is no worse than the shocking service the G.P.O. gives the telephone subscriber for his money.

A. T. B. (Aldershot).—We note that you write "to kill time." Our Tame Barber says that the article you enclosed on the subject of "The Barber's Chair," would kill anything. But he is probably jealous.

MRS. — — — (Muswell Hill).—Most certainly, a woman in your position *should* be able to obtain a divorce, and the Pensions Ministry should not refuse to disclose your husband's address, and thus prevent you.

E. A. M. (Lower Edmonton).—Obviously, no better use could be made of waste tinfoil than to contribute it to the Tinfoil Collection for Hospitals, run by the Ancient Order of Druids.

G. H. Q. (Edinburgh).—We consider seven years' penal servitude a lenient sentence for a brute who criminally assaults a tiny girl of 2 and infects her with a dreadful disease. We have dealt with the case elsewhere.

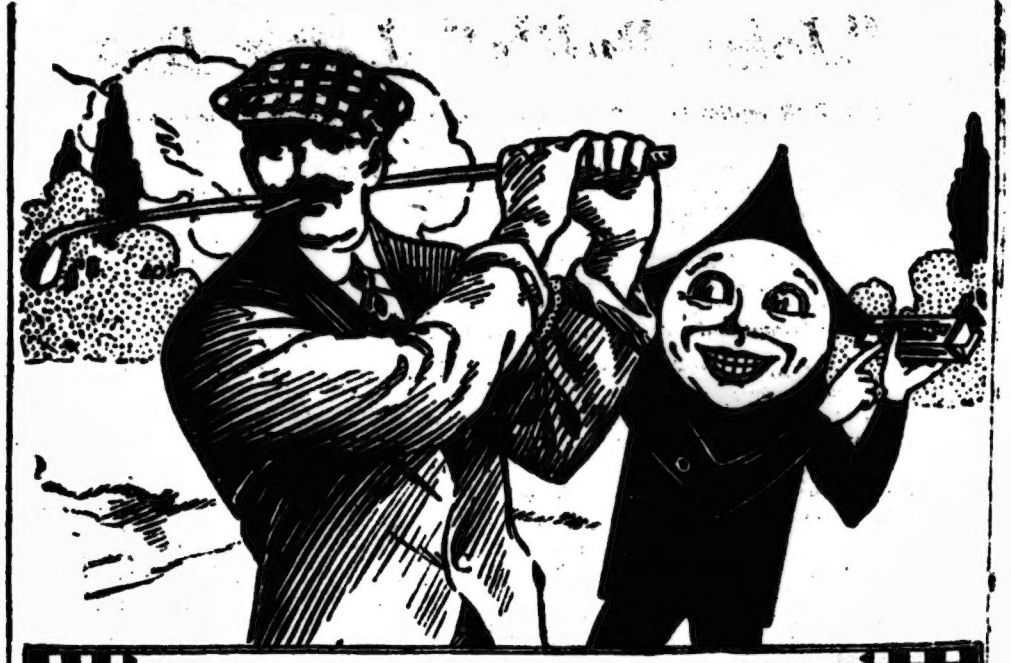
"MAS." (Battersea Park).—So you have been caught twice by the "free photo enlargement" swindle? Time you woke up.

M. (Suffolk).—We have very frequently referred to the noble work of the V.A.D.s, which has gone unrecognised officially.

Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

Rowntree's Cocoa

A cup of Rowntree's Cocoa turns a biscuit into a meal— it's so nourishing.



If you want a steady hand and eye Reduce the smokes and 'Wrigley's' try

IN both work and play thousands are discovering that WRIGLEY'S Chewing Gum reduces the craving for too many smokes. Golfers, Footballers, Athletes, and Sportsmen in all branches of sport and play find that WRIGLEY'S makes and keeps them more fit and strong—for work and recreation.

WRIGLEY'S 3

offer a choice of 3 fine, long-lasting flavour sweets. It is the handiest and best of all emergency rations for the man, or woman, or juvenile who wants to keep fit and well, strong and enduring.

BUY AND TRY A 3d. PACKET TO-DAY —or, better still, one Packet of each of the 3 different flavours—and experience for yourself the wonderful effect of WRIGLEY'S in keeping your mouth moist, your tongue clean, your breath sweet, and your energies and spirits at a high level. See, too, how WRIGLEY'S will help you to economise on your Tobacco consumption. WRIGLEY'S is the most economical Sweetmeat obtainable to-day. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Enterprising Retailers should write for Attractive Showcards, etc., to WRIGLEY'S LTD., 235, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, S.E.1.

3d. per Packet.

Sealed Tight Kept Right

The Flavour Lasts

SAMPLE BOOT OFFER.

BOOTS, like all other articles, can be produced at almost any price—so much depends upon the quality of material and workmanship; but when Barratt's (a firm with a reputation to uphold) offer sample pairs of full Chrome Box Calf Boots, made on the hand-sewn principle, at 30/- a pair, post paid, that offer is worth thinking about.

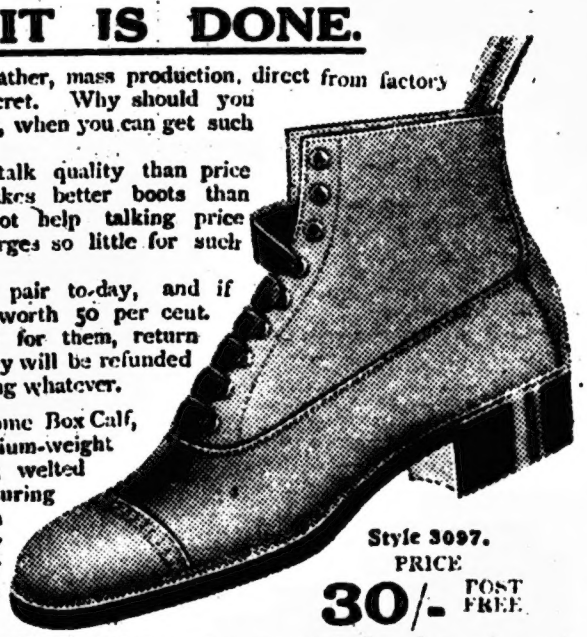
HOW IT IS DONE.

Large purchases of leather, mass production, direct from factory to wearer—that's the secret. Why should you pay the middleman's profit, when you can get such quality boots at first cost?

We would rather talk quality than price because no other firm makes better boots than Barratt's, but we cannot help talking price because no other firm charges so little for such high-grade footwear.

Send for a sample pair to-day, and if you think they are not worth 50 per cent. more than you have paid for them, return them to us, when your money will be refunded in full without any quibbling whatever.

DESCRIPTION: Full Chrome Box Calf, very pliable; tough medium-weight soles; comfortable shape; welted (hand-sewn) principle, ensuring flexibility and inside smoothness; solidly built and very comfortable. Suitable for town or light country wear. Every pair guaranteed.



Style 3097.
PRICE
30/- POST FREE

SIZES: 5, 5½, 6, 6½, 7, 7½, 8, 8½, 9, 9½, 10, 10½, 11, 11½, 12. If size not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot, and we will supply a perfect fit. All post orders must be sent direct to our works at Northampton.

W. BARRATT & Co., Ltd.
(Dept. J),
"Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

LONDON DEPOTS:
36, OXFORD STREET, W.
21 & 22, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.
57, FENCHURCH ST., E.C.
166, STRAND, W.C.
285, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
12, TOTTENHAM Ct. Rd., W.

Send **3d.** *postage for large Illustrated Art Catalogue of "Footshapes" for the family.*

'BULLETS' £250 'BULLETS'

1ST PRIZE £20 — 2ND PRIZE £10 — 3RD PRIZE £5

10 PRIZES OF £5	10 PRIZES OF £2:10	25 PRIZES OF 10s.	200 PRIZES OF 5s.	1,000 PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.	3,000 "TARGET" PRIZES.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give TWO, THREE or FOUR words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any ONE of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you: Example:—PAYING THE FINE. Bullet:—DOES NOT AFFECT PROSPERITY. Example:—IDLING. Bullet:—NOT BOTTOMLEY'S MAXIM. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated April 10th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 368.

THE BRITISH ARMY	WITHOUT BOTTOMLEY	IN THE KNOW	HOW TO REDUCE PRICES
WATCH ASQUITH	BAD BUSINESS	GREEDY	PAINLESS EXTRACTION
SMOKING ENDS	AT IT AGAIN	POPULAR WIN	IN THE CLOUDS
UNNECESSARY	GET RICH QUICK	THINKING TWICE	FACE AND FORTUNE
KNOWING THE ROPES	WITHOUT REASON	RINGLEADERS	REAPING THE BENEFIT
OUR UNDOING	PUBLIC SPIRIT	SPRING CLEANING	CUTTING IT FINE
WHEN WANTED	WHILE YOU WAIT	SAFE AS HOUSES	THE OLD FIRM
TURNING BACK	MUST BE WON	PAYING THE FINE	IDLING

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 25th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(368) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 25th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(368) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No. 368, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 25th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(368) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 3 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 25th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(368) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2/- must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 368.

WANTING THE EARTH—REVOLTING—A FAIR KNOCKOUT—BIG MAJORITY—PAY AND LOOK PLEASANT—DRINKING—TAXING WAR FORTUNES—SHARING THE SPOILS—WICKED—BEFORE LONG—A SCREAM—WORLD'S BETTER—SHOWING WHITE FLAG—NO CATCH—FAREWELL—FORBIDDING WIFE—A CLOSE RACE—LADY IN THE HOUSE—WON'T SETTLE—LAUGHING.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, April 1st.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **368** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 368, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two examples for Competition 368.

List of 10s. Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 366 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and Other Prizewinners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Result of 366th 'Bullets' Competition.

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Mrs. ANGELL,
22, First Avenue, Hove, Sussex.
Example:—LETTING OFF STEAM.
Bullet:—LORD FISHER—"IN VOLUMES."

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. CHARLES MELVIN,
10, Lydeard Rd., East Ham, E.6.
Example:—WHY PALMER WON.
Bullet:—GOVERNMENT DIDN'T "ASK HIM."

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. C. PAYNE,
15, Roman Rd., Ilford, Essex.
Example:—DETAINED AT THE OFFICE.
Bullet:—NOBODY—JUDGING BY UNDERWOOD

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

MR. M. GOOD, 19, Denmark Rd., Aylestone Park, Leicester:
LETTING OFF STEAM—AND PROFITEERS—OUR COMMITTEES.

MRS. E. CROUCHER, 36, Frencham Rd., Southsea.
OUR NEW BOSS—NECESSITY IS—SINCE WAR.

MR. O. H. CLARKE, 161, Holland Rd., N.W.10:
SOUND ASLEEP—THEN "ALL UP" LATER.

MISS W. GROSER, 13, High St., Winchester:
GETTING TOO FAST—PROSPERITY "OUT OF SIGHT."

MR. R. T. COOPER, 34, Freehold St., Derby:
GREAT STRUGGLE—BETWEEN STRIKES—"DAILY HERALD."
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

MR. E. TULLEY, 23, West Hill St., Brighton:
ON THIN ICE—THEN ANOTHER COMPANY "FLOATED."

MR. J. L. STOCKS, "Littlewood," Rose Hill, Rednal, nr. Birmingham:
A MYSTERY—SHORTAGE OF LABOUR—UNEMPLOYMENT.

MR. W. CARTER, 21, St. Peter's Grove, W.6:
AT OUR EXPENSE—THE WORLD POLICED SOON.

MR. A. WINSHIP, 31, Upland Rd., N.8:
A GREAT TRIUMPH — ONE JOURNAL — TWO MEMBERS.

MR. A. BOUGHTON, 2, Winders Rd., S.W.11:
OUR NEW BOSS—EXPECTED SHORTLY—IN CORDUROYS.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

MR. W. FLEMING, 32, Brantfell Rd., Blackburn:
WHAT WORKERS WANT—NOSES DOWN, NOT UP.

MISS A. ROWE, 36, Gerard St., Ashton-in-Makerfield, Lancs.:
PRICE OF COTTON—IT'S "TREBLE" AND "BASS."

MR. P. J. CASEY, Ynysowen, Merthyr Vale:
WHAT WORKERS WANT—MIDDLE CLASSES USUALLY SUPPLY.

MR H. E. TILBROOKE, 184, Western Rd., Brighton:
GETTING TOO FAST—GOVERNMENT EXCURSIONS INTO EXTRAVAGANCE.

MR. F. SMITH, 69, Francis St., Thornaby-on-Tees:
THE CAT—AND ARMED POLICEMEN SUFFICIENT.

MISS ADA B. DAVIES, 26, Bourne Ave., Salisbury:
DETAINED AT THE OFFICE — TALE WITHOUT "HAPPY ENDING."

MR. GEO. WARE, 23, Erpingham Rd., S.W.15:
SOUND ASLEEP—KAISER HOPES JUSTICE STAYS.

MR. A. ELLISDON, 43, Alexandra Rd., N.19:
ON LAST LEGS—COULDN'T "STRAIGHTEN UP." APPARENTLY.

MR. A. N. FORD, Church Lane, Allestree, Derby:
AT OUR EXPENSE—EUROPE SAFE, AMERICA RICH.

MR. I. MATHEWS, 30, Englewood Rd., S.W.:
SCOTLAND YARD—NEXT REWARD—WHITE GLOVES.

BULLETS RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of pay. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. It costs 1d. to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks ..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
To be retained by Newsagent.

To .....
Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice

Signed .....

Address .....

Mar. 30, 1910.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept. 63, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this Insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address .....

Mar. 30, 1910.

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

£7,450 ALREADY WON!!

LARGEST AMOUNT PAID OUT BY ANY PAPER.

£250 MUST BE WON!

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS

OR NEXT LARGEST NUMBER OF WINNING TEAMS.

Our Weekly Football Competition is quite different from all others and **ONLY** appears in this paper. The sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of ten winning teams selected from those given on the coupon on this page. Should no competitor succeed in giving ten winning teams, the prize of £250 will be awarded to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. This competition is open for one week, and coupons can only be taken from this week's issue.

NO ENTRANCE FEE—GREAT ONE WEEK COMPETITION.

HAVE YOU WON A PRIZE YET?

This competition is exclusive to "John Bull." Coupons do not appear in any other paper. It is quite free, no entrance fee of any kind being charged. Competitors can send as many coupons as they like. Scottish and Irish readers may compete. A careful study of football form should be made before filling in coupons. The "National News" gives the best and most accurate reports and forecasts every Sunday, which should prove of great assistance to intending competitors.

Cut out coupon neatly and address all entries as follows:—"**Football Competition No. 28, JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.**" Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other competitions.

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

For Result of Football Competition No. 25 see Page 16.

Read these Rules Carefully.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL announcing this competition. Coupons must be written in ink (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £250 (Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon giving any ten winning teams from amongst those playing on March 27th, given on the coupon on this page and as set out on that coupon. If no competitor succeeds in giving ten winning teams the prize of £250 will be paid to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams as described above. If two or more competitors succeed in giving ten winning teams, or failing that, succeed in sending the next largest number of winning teams, the £250 will be divided equally amongst them. No competitor can take more than one share of the £250 prize.

(3) Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded, and winning teams from the remaining fixtures only will be allowed to count.

(4) **Any coupon which has marked upon it more than ten Xs or less than ten Xs will be disqualified.**

(5) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted.

(6) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

(7) Our employees are debarred from entering the competition.

(8) Any coupons received later than Thursday, March 25th, will be disqualified.

(9) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win put a X in the left-hand column headed "Home Win"; if you think the "Away" team will win put a X in the right-hand column headed "Away Win." Only ten teams must be marked in all. **If more or less than ten Xs appear on any one coupon it will be disqualified. Coupons MUST be written in ink.**

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Matches to be played on Saturday, March 27th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, March 25th.

Home Win	Home Team		Away Team	Away Win
	Bradford City	v.	Manchester United	
	Derby County	v.	Bradford	
	Everton	v.	Sheffield United	
	Manchester City	v.	Liverpool	
	Notts County	v.	Newcastle United	
	Sunderland	v.	Burnley	
	Coventry City	v.	Barnsley	
	Grimsby Town	v.	Port Vale	
	Rotherham County	v.	Tottenham Hotspur	
	Exeter City	v.	Portsmouth	
	Gillingham	v.	Crystal Palace	
	Luton Town	v.	Southend United	
	Plymouth Argyle	v.	Watford	
	Southampton	v.	Norwich City	

Coupons must be cut—not torn out.

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

SIGNED .....

28 ADDRESS .....

.....

RHEUMATISM

GOUT—SCIATICA—LUMBAGO—CHILBLAINS—BURNS—CRAMP—SPRAINS and all MUSCULAR and NERVE PAINS

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SOMME BATTLE 1916.

ROLL OF HONOUR SHORTLY TO BE PUBLISHED. In order that the ROLL OF HONOUR may be complete in every detail, relatives of deceased soldiers (officers and men) should send particulars immediately to the Editor, SOMME ROLL OF HONOUR, 2a, Alexandra Road, Moss Side, Manchester.

LIVING BENEATH VESUVIUS.

People who are suffering from Venereal Disease and have gone for treatment, but who have given up attending the doctor because they think they are cured are doing a foolhardy thing. They are condemning themselves to live under the shadow of a great peril, a peril as ominous as the menace of Vesuvius—liable to burst at any moment into terrible activity.

The mere disappearance of painful symptoms is often taken for the disappearance of the disease. Gonorrhœa, in particular, may lie dormant in the system for a considerable time, only to break out again with renewed violence.

Lulled into false security, the victim in the meantime may have married; and so the contagion is passed on.

The only security is to continue treatment *until given a clean bill of health by the doctor, and to dismiss all thoughts of marriage until a cure has been definitely pronounced.* Knowingly to expose others to the possibility of infection with its hideous consequences is an unforgiveable iniquity.

In their early stages both Syphilis and Gonorrhœa are in most cases easily curable. But speedy treatment is half the battle. Every hour wasted after exposure to infection is an hour lost to the doctor. All who are infected or who have taken the risk of infection should seek medical advice at once. Free treatment is provided under conditions of secrecy at the Out-Patients' Department of the nearest hospital or clinic.

Those who are in any doubt or difficulty should write in confidence for information and free literature to N.C.C.V.D., 54, Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, marking the envelope "Medical." The National Council provides neither prescriptions nor drugs.

This announcement is issued by the National Council for combating Venereal Diseases, a responsible body recognised by the Government. President: Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham. Vice-President: Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., Sir Francis Champneys, Bart., M.D. Chairman of Propaganda: Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.E. General Secretary: Mrs. A. C. Gotto, O.B.E.

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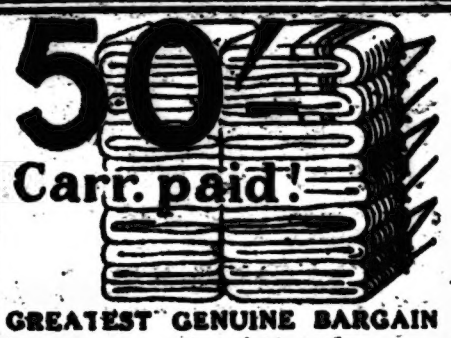

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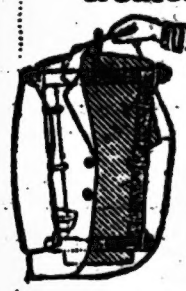

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